

# The SWORD of the LORD

Edited by JOHN R. RICE.

"And they cried, The Sword of the Lord, and of Gideon." Judges 7:20

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## Can You Match Them?

By the Editor

"...And others were tortured, not accepting deliverance; that they might obtain a better resurrection: And others had trial of cruel mockings and scourgings, yea, moreover of bonds and imprisonment: They were stoned, they were sawn asunder, were tempted, were slain with the sword: they wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins; being destitute, afflicted, tormented; (Of whom the world was not worthy:) they wandered in deserts, and in mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth. And these all, having obtained a good report through faith, received not the promise: God having provided some better thing for us, that they without us should not be made perfect."—Heb. 11:35-40.

In the above Scripture we have the thrilling challenge of saints of God who by faith were ready to suffer, be tortured, stoned, sawed in two, and endure poverty and oppression and persecution for Jesus Christ "that they might obtain a better resurrection." And these are held up as models for Christians today!

That passage continues on into Hebrews 12, and there Jesus Himself is held up as our Example, "Who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God. For consider him that endured such contradiction of sinners against himself, lest ye be wearied and faint in your minds." Here the martyrs of the past and the sufferings and devotion of the Lord Jesus Himself are held up to us as a pattern for us to follow.

I believe the half-hearted effort that Christians today generally make in getting out the gospel proves a hypocrisy that must make angels weep, and that sure-

ly makes sinners despise the gospel. Why should sinners want to serve a God when His best friends, His own children, never suffer for Him, never make any all-out effort to win souls, and who give God only the chicken-feed, the tips, the loose change, which involves no sacrifice, no self-denial? Why should sinners believe in a Christianity which involves no holy passion, no blood, no tears, no persecution, no giving up of pleasures, no real consecration of possessions?

The Lord Jesus commended the widow who cast the two mites into the treasury because "she hath cast in all her living." He



Rev. Norman Lewis

said. The amount of money was not important. What was important was that this woman put in all she had. He commended Mary of Bethany who, in a life of poverty, had saved up some three hundred pence and bought the most expensive perfume in an alabaster box and poured it on the Lord Jesus. But the three hundred pence was about a year's wages, and everybody was shocked to see the "waste." But it was not wasted. Jesus was thus anointed by the loving sacrifice of Mary for His burial.

Does any reader really believe that God is satisfied with what you do for Him as long as there is no suffering, no sacrifice, no tears, no oppression, no loss of (Continued on page 11)

## TWO HARVESTS

By Missionary Norman Lewis  
Casilla de Correo 2689, Buenos Aires, Argentina

"Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting."—Gal. 6:7,8.

Here we see a law, the law of sowing and reaping.

The fact that "whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap" is clearly proven quite apart from its declaration in God's Word. This truth is plainly illustrated in human experience. The farmer understands perfectly that in order to harvest corn, he must first plant corn; to plant anything else means a different harvest.

Suppose I stroll one day along a country road, see a farmer planting seed potatoes, and say to him: "Good morning, Sir. You seem to be planning for a good harvest of potatoes."

The old chap withers me with a scornful glance and mutters: "Potatoes no, onions."

A bit startled, I ask, "But aren't you putting in potatoes?"

"Makes no difference, I want onions," he says, and turns to his work.

What would you think of that man? You would suspect he had a screw loose. Certainly only a man

mentally weak would plant potatoes and hope to harvest onions. Even a child knows that in order to harvest barley, it is necessary to sow barley, and in order to reap wheat, it is necessary to sow wheat. We all understand that according to the seed sown, so will be the harvest.

### A Huge Harvest

One notable difference between that which is sowed and that which is reaped consists in the quantity. (Continued on page 10)

## Saved in Three Minutes

By Dr. A. J. Gordon, Founder  
Gordon College, Boston

Coming out of church not long since at the close of the morning service, a messenger met me, requesting that I would go at once to a neighboring house to see a young man who was considered to be near his end. I hurried to the place accordingly, and, being ushered into the room, I sat down by the bed of the dying youth. Knowing that the time was short, I came at once to the all-important subject, and said:

"My dear friend, I see that you are very ill. Are you prepared for what may be before you?"

"O, if I only were," he replied, giving me a look, in which despair and importunity seemed strangely blended, "and if I could be spared two or three weeks I believe I might be prepared; but the doctor tells me I can live only a few hours."

So saying, he caught hold of my hand, and held it as a drowning man might hold a plank or an overhanging limb.

"Three weeks?" I said, "why do you want three weeks?" And then he went on to give me his idea of conversion. There must first be conviction; and in order that this should be genuine and thoroughgoing, time must be had for a careful review of the life, and an accurate weighing of its sins. And there must be repentance; and the experience of godly sorrow must be long and deep to be acceptable to the Lord; and then faith and the new-birth must come when the heart, by this process had been made ready. All of which he declared would occupy weeks in its accomplishment.

Having given me this detailed account of "the plan of salvation," as it lay in his mind, he sank back exhausted, and with a look that told how hopeless he regarded his condition, he looked imploringly into my eyes as though to say, "You see you can do nothing for me."

"Three weeks in order to be saved!" I exclaimed. "Let me tell you how you may be saved in three minutes." So saying I opened the Word of God and read: "As

many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name" (John 1:12). "If I give you this watch," I asked, "how long would it take you to receive it? Could you not take it at once?" He assented that he could. "The gift of God is eternal life" (Rom. 6:23). I said, reading again from the Bible, "What have you to do with a gift? Do you buy it or beg it, or wait a long time to be prepared to accept it? Now, God has given you His Son and eternal life in Him, so that the Scripture declares, 'He that hath the Son of God hath life' (1 John 5:12). In (Continued on page 9)



Dr. A. J. Gordon

## PRESENT DAY METHODISM

and the



By Newton C. Conant,  
Pastor, Calvary Bible Protestant Church, Camden, New Jersey

### Chapter 2

## Methodist Leaders Deny the Inspiration of the Old Testament

Is the Old Testament the inspired, inerrant Word of God? The leaders of the Methodist Church emphatically say, "No!" It was stated rather generally in the preceding pages that those in authority in the Methodist Church do not believe in an inspired, inerrant Bible. Specific instances will now be cited to show that the leaders of the Methodist Church do not believe the Old Testament to be the inspired, inerrant Word of God.

### The Mosaic Authorship of the Pentateuch Denied by Methodist Leaders

It is evident from the following quotation that Methodist leaders do not believe the Bible claim that Moses wrote the Pentateuch.

"Did Moses write any part of the Old Testament?"

"This is a very old and much-disputed question..."

"Nowhere in the Old Testament does Moses claim to have written anything."

"It is hundreds of years afterward before any Biblical writer makes any such claim for him (II Chron. 23:18; 30:16; 35:12). Certainly there are no documents

that go back to the period to give us exact information."—*Know Your Bible Series*, No. 1, p. 29.

It is difficult to understand how the Mosaic authorship of the Pentateuch can be in dispute. The Pentateuch itself claims Moses as the author in Exodus 24:4 and 34:27. Other parts of the Old Testament likewise testify to the Mosaic authorship, such as Joshua 1:7 and 23:6, Judges 3:4. The books of Kings, Chronicles, Ezra and Nehemiah all refer to the law of Moses. The Old Testament closes with an injunction to, "Remember the law of Moses my servant" (Mal. 4:4). The Lord Jesus Christ declared that



Moses was the author of the Pentateuch, as also did the Apostle Paul. We have this evidence in Luke 24:27, 44 and Acts 28:23.

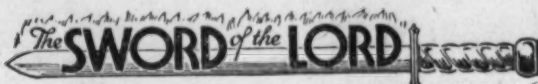
To reject the claim that Moses wrote the Pentateuch is to reject all Biblical evidence relating to this fact, thus declaring the Bible to be erroneous on this point. To reject the Mosaic authorship of the Pentateuch is also to accuse the Lord Jesus Christ of believing and teaching error, because He ascribed authorship to Moses. "For had ye believed Moses, ye would have believed me: for he wrote of me" (John 5:46).

### The Critical Theory of the Origin of the Pentateuch Accepted by Methodists

This theory, known as the Graf-Wellhausen theory, claims the Pentateuch was not written by Moses but was compiled from various documents, which documents conflict with each other. We quote from *Know Your Bible Series*, No. 5, page 27:

"To the scholar who is familiar with Hebrew it is very evident that material from a number of different historical documents lies embedded in the Pentateuch, though they have been so (Continued on page 6)





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## The Genius Of The Gospels

### DR. MERRILL C. TENNEY'S BOOK REVIEWED BY EDITOR JOHN R. RICE

Several months ago, in mid-year of 1951, Dr. Merrill C. Tenney's book, *The Genius of the Gospels*, came out, published by Eerdmans. It consisted of four lectures given at Western Conservative Baptist Theological Seminary, Portland, Oregon. Some features of the book make it so important, in my judgment, that it ought to be reviewed carefully in *The Sword of the Lord*.

Dr. Tenney is dean of the Graduate School of Wheaton College, Wheaton, Illinois, was trained in Gordon College of Theology, Boston University and has a Ph.D. degree from Harvard University. Dr. Tenney has lots of influence and this influence is all the more widespread because he is a good man, widely loved and respected by fundamental Christians. And any important error in a book by such a man as Dr. Tenney, in such a position as he holds, deserves more than the usual careful review.

Let me say to start with that this review concerns the book: it is not primarily about Dr. Tenney nor about Wheaton College. I think the book is bad. But Dr. Tenney is not bad, and Wheaton College is not bad. Wheaton College stands forthright for the fundamentals of faith. Every teacher, including Dr. Tenney, annually signs a statement of faith affirming belief in the verbal inspiration of the Bible and kindred great doctrines.

Four of my daughters are graduates of Wheaton College. Two of my sons-in-law have graduated there. A fifth daughter is now sophomore in Wheaton College and doing good work there, while the sixth daughter is in her first year in Wheaton College Academy. I think that indicates my solid confidence in Wheaton College, in the good president, Dr. V. Raymond Edman, and in the faculty and administration.

Dr. Tenney is an earnest Christian man, an out-and-out believer in the Bible. Dr. V. Raymond Edman is a judge on the Sword Book Club, and one of my dearest friends. And I write this review after two long periods of personal counsel. In one meeting President

Edman, Dr. Tenney and four or five other faculty members met with me for two hours or more in most brotherly discussion. In the other meeting, later, Dr. Edman, Dr. Tenney and the publisher, Mr. Eerdmans, and I met together for nearly three hours. We are all good friends and all Christian brethren. We understand and love one another. I felt that the book should be withdrawn from publication, but the brethren thought this would be too drastic. Hence I write this review, because I feel that some things I regard as serious errors in the book ought to be counteracted. I give my objections to the book briefly. I do it in loyal friendship to Wheaton College, to Dr. Tenney, to Dr. Edman, and others on the faculty and administration.

#### 1. The Book Is One-sided, Giving Nearly All Its Attention to the Human Element in the Writing of the Gospels, Not Enough, I Think, to the Divine Element.

In 119 pages of text, not more than one page is given to the divine inspiration of the gospels. Dr. Tenney explains that he had in mind a book primarily on the human side, but the name, *The Genius of the Gospels*, to my mind indicates that it ought to have given more space to divine inspiration. Actually the genius of the gospels is not primarily human, but primarily supernatural.

Dr. Tenney on page 41 says clearly, "In short, no theory of gospel criticism is acceptable which does not give full value to the plenary inspiration of these records." So Dr. Tenney did affirm the full inspiration of the Bible in

plain words. In the preface Dr. Tenney says, "The series of four lectures contained in this book is a tentative approach to the problem of the gospels from a distinctly conservative position." So we must believe and do believe that Dr. Tenney believes all the Bible, and that he did not intend to treat lightly the full inspiration of the Bible. Dr. Tenney tells me that he did not think of the term "plenary inspiration" as being less definite than "verbal inspiration." However, he and Dr. Edman were agreed that the position on verbal inspiration ought to be more sharply stated without any possibility of misunderstanding, and Dr. Tenney gave me a copy of a new preface to be inserted in the book, which preface avows clearly the verbal inspiration of the Bible. But I think that the book would leave the wrong impression upon ministerial students and on ministers who might study it because of its overwhelming emphasis upon the human element in the writing of the gospels.

#### 2. The Book Teaches That the Gospels Grew Out of Conscious Human Need, and That the Materials Were Used Regularly as Evangelistic Preaching Material Before Written Down in the Gospels

I believe that that position is entirely wrong. The Bible never hints that the writing of any part of the Scriptures was because people saw the need for a Scripture and arranged for it to be written. And there is nothing in the Scriptures which says that the gospels were taken from "oral tradition," or that they were "homiletic material already in use." I do not believe, as Dr. Tenney thinks, that the gospels "codify the 'tradition' which was uniformly believed." I do not believe that they were "drawn from the testimony of eyewitnesses." I believe that is very seriously wrong. The Bible does not claim to be written by men who made investigation, who talked to witnesses, who searched for documentary proof. Rather, the Bible claims to be written by men who spoke as they were moved by the Holy Ghost. The Bible does not claim to be simply nor primarily the report of eyewitnesses, but it claims to be breathed of God.

#### 3. Dr. Tenney Claims That the Writers "Selected" Material, That They "Arranged," "Copied," "Edited," "Organized According to the Author's Design"

I believe that kind of statement, repeated often in Dr. Tenney's book, is wrong. I do not believe that the writers "selected" the material. I believe the Spirit of God selected the material. I do not believe that they "arranged" material from the oral tradition. I do not believe they "edited" it. I do not believe that each one had a mass of tradition or some documents and that each gospel writer "organized according to the author's design" the material already at hand, in writing his particular gospel. I do not believe, as Dr. Tenney suggests, that the gospel writers "modified his own work or made a new edition to include additional information drawn from others."

I believe that Dr. Tenney is a good fundamentalist, but I believe he has been reading after too many modernists and that his thinking was colored by the flood of literature by unbelieving critics. Dr. Tenney really believes that God gave the words of the Scriptures, but the language of this book does not always appear to represent that belief. Hence the language does not really do Dr. Tenney's position justice.

Dr. Tenney speaks often of "John's purpose" or "Matthew's purpose," or what Luke "attempted" to do, or what Mark felt was necessary, and he speaks of these men as "composing" their gospels. I believe the purpose and motives were God's, that He gave the material, even the words and that the gospel writers did not "compose" the gospels. I do not believe that the humor in the Gospel of Luke belongs to Luke at all. I believe that what humor there is in the parable of the great supper in Luke 14 was the humor of the Lord Jesus, and not the humor of Luke. I do not believe that he selected



## Editor's Notes

Please address all mail to the editor to Wheaton, Illinois.

### OUR AUTHORS THIS WEEK

Dr. A. J. Gordon, who wrote "Saved In Three Minutes" in this issue was pastor of the Clarendon Street Baptist Church in Boston for many years. He founded Gordon College. He wrote *The Ministry of Healing*, *The Ministry of the Spirit*, *When Christ Came to Church*, etc. He wrote the music for a famous hymn, "My Jesus, I Love Thee," I believe, and was long credited with the words. He was a Spirit-filled man of God. Get unsaved loved ones and friends to read "Saved In Three Minutes" and urge them to decide for Christ today.

Missionary Norman Lewis is a tall red-headed young prophet of God who went to Buenos Aires, Argentina, as a missionary, a great Christian, a fervent soul winner, my honored friend. You will like his sermon, "Two Harvests."

Dr. F. B. Meyer, a pastor in England, was famous a generation ago as a Bible teacher throughout the English-speaking world. He was a friend and co-worker with D. L. Moody. His message, "Prayer and Intercession," has many Scriptures, will bless your heart and probe your conscience.

### MORE ABOUT PRESENT DAY METHODISM

We urge you to read carefully

the material nor arranged it with this in mind. I believe that the Holy Spirit gave Luke the very words that Jesus had given in the parable. But the casual reader of Dr. Tenney's book would not think that was what Dr. Tenney meant, I fear.

#### 4. I Feel That There Are Extenuating Circumstances That Ought to Be Mentioned

First, Dr. Tenney is the victim of a trend. Teachers in Christian colleges and seminaries in recent years have gone overboard in a study of the criticism of the gospels and a criticism of the Old Testament, and on "the human element" in the Bible and "the style" of various writers. A. T. Robertson, for example, and others who ought to have known better took too seriously the *Two Document* theory. There have been too few books, scholarly and reliable, on the inspiration of the Bible in the last generation. Dr. Tenney is largely the victim of a trend, and I think (Continued on page 4)

the second chapter by Rev. Newton C. Conant of the series on *Present Day Methodism and the Bible*. This chapter on the inspiration of the Old Testament will show a heart-breaking degree of modernism among Methodist leaders. Do not blame me. Do not blame Mr. Conant and the other Bible-believing Methodist people who are crying out against this wicked unbelief which grieves all our hearts. But Bible-believing Christians must oppose it. See how carefully Pastor Conant, this trusted Christian leader, proves every statement.

### SUBSCRIPTION CAMPAIGN CLOSES APRIL 1

Only a few weeks remain of our tremendous subscription campaign. There are literally hundreds of leaders who ought to see that *THE SWORD* is sent to every family in your church, even if you have to pay for them or probably take the subscriptions or urge it upon the pastors or deacons or elders. I am awaiting with deepest concern for your reaction to my plea this week. Hundreds should subscribe now for whole churches or for all the ministers of your denomination in your state. Thousands should today send in subscriptions for nine or more. We are falling short and we believe all who fail in this matter will be guilty before God. I beg you, come to the Lord's help. Send subscriptions at once!

### SWORD STAFF EVANGELISTS AVAILABLE

The Staff of Evangelists sponsored by the Sword of the Lord is asked to meet in Wheaton for daytime sessions of prayer and counsel the week of April 27-May 4. These men will be available for revival and special services in the area around Wheaton up to 100 miles or so away.

These men are:

Evangelist Kenneth Chapman  
 Evangelist Ray Cutchin  
 Evangelist Covell Keenum  
 Evangelist Claude McDonald  
 Evangelist Dick Melton  
 Evangelist Joe Miller  
 Evangelist Dolphus Price  
 Evangelist Joe B. Rice  
 Evangelist Jimmie Threlfall  
 Evangelist Eddie Wagner  
 Evangelist J. Oscar Wells

Evangelist Joe Miller, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, is listed in the above group since he is now joining our strong Staff. Our Staff, not counting campaigns by the Staff Director nor those of the Editor, had over 3600 conversions last year! Perhaps you may have one of these for your church within 100 miles or so of Wheaton, to include the week of April 27 to May 4, or more. If interested, write Rev. Ralph Mucher, Field Secretary, Sword Staff of Evangelists, 214 W. Wesley, Wheaton, Illinois.

Evangelist Douglas Winn of Martinsville, Virginia, is no longer connected with the Sword Staff of Evangelists, and we no longer make his engagements.

Evangelist Bill Rice, Director of the Staff and Assistant Editor will also be in the area, and available for services.



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## Strange Short Stories

By Dr. Walter L. Wilson

### The BIGGEST HANGING of all



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## Present-Day Methodism and the Bible

By Newton C. Conant

- Factual**—names, dates, actual quotations make this book reliable. Without exaggeration, it is a sober analysis of the facts, presented honestly and kindly.
- Biblical**—Mr. Conant knows the Bible well. He uses Scripture—not logic nor opinion, but Scripture, to prove his statements.
- Decisive**—It requires a decision, shows the Christian what he ought to do about these serious matters.

#### WHY THIS BOOK WAS WRITTEN

In the summer of 1939, Rev. Conant was chosen to be chairman of Methodist Protestants of the Eastern Conference who were opposed to entering the Methodist Union. Because of the committee's efforts, over thirty churches refused to enter into union with the Methodist Church. This book tells why these Bible-believing Christians could not enter into fellowship with the Methodist Church. It is evident from the many quotations in this book that outstanding leaders in the Methodist Church do not believe in an inspired, inerrant Bible, nor in the great doctrines of the faith which rest upon the Bible. Bible Christians need these facts.

#### ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

The Rev. Newton C. Conant has been pastor of the Calvary Bible Protestant Church at Camden, New Jersey, for nineteen years. He was elected president of the Eastern Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church in 1939; was secretary for several years of the American Council of Christian Churches. He is on the board of Directors of Shelton College, New York City.

Dr. J. Oliver Buswell, President of Shelton College, New York City, says, "I have read the manuscript of this challenging and informative book with great profit. We all know that unbelief is deeply entrenched in the organized church. Specific and detailed information, well documented, such as is here presented to the reader, leaves the conscience of the Bible-believing Christian without excuse if he continues to support the great liberal denominational programs."

This book is so important, so needed, that we have reprinted it in paper binding to give it wide distribution. There are 107 pages of startling facts and Bible teaching. Order your copy today! Only \$1.00

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#### See Dr. Wilson's comment on The Sword of the Lord in Sword Family Roundtable

An accidental hanging is recorded in II Samuel 18:10. A certain soldier came to Joab, David's commander-in-chief and said, "Behold, I saw Absalom hanged in an oak." Absalom was the son of King David, engaged in a war of rebellion against his father. He and the unfaithful army of David were engaged in battle with his father David and the faithful soldiers who remained true to David. Absalom was leading his troops and was riding upon a mule. As he was charging through the thick woods his mule went under the boughs of a great oak, and his head was caught in the oak in some manner. Whether his neck was fastened in a crotch of the branches, or whether his long heavy hair became entangled in the limbs, we do not know. It is clear that the mule kept on going, leaving Absalom hanging in the air by his head. Probably Absalom's hair, which was the source of his pride, was the cause of his defeat. Joab and his men found Absalom hanging there, and soon killed him with their darts. "Pride goeth before a fall." That wherein he gloried was the means of his destruction. Neither would we call this "The Biggest Hanging."

The great Ahithophel, a wonderful counselor, and a man of unusual wisdom, ended his life by committing suicide through hanging himself. The story of this tragedy is recorded in II Samuel 17:23 and reads, "And when Ahithophel saw that his counsel was not followed, he saddled his ass, and arose, and gat him home to his house, to his city, and put his household in order, and hanged himself, and died." He was careful to fix up his home, but was careless about fixing up his heart. He arranged his affairs in this life, but neglected the affairs of the next life. How sad it is that a man so great should have such a shameful death. Not all, who start well, end well. Neither was this "The Greatest Hanging."

A woman was the cause of the hanging of eleven men. She was a beautiful girl named Esther. Haman and his ten sons had conspired to bring about the death of the queen and all the queen's people, the Jews. The plot was discovered and made known to the king. Haman had built a gallows seventy-five feet high, on which to hang Mordecai, who was the uncle of Queen Esther. When the king discovered Haman's wickedness, and his evil intentions against the queen, the decree went forth from the king's lips that Haman should be hanged on his own gallows. The decree was executed and is recorded in Esther 7:10. It is quite evident that Haman's sons agreed with their father and so these ten young men were hanged also. And this is described in Esther 9:14. This was a great hanging and quite unusual because a father and his ten sons were hanged for one offense. This, however, was not "The Biggest Hanging."

Judas the traitor hanged himself, after he betrayed Jesus. The sad end of this "man of opportunity" is told in Matthew 27:5. Judas had been close to Christ,

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## SWORD FAMILY ROUNDTABLE

Some Greatly-Used  
Christian Leaders'  
Comments on  
THE SWORD  
OF THE LORD



DR. WALTER L. WILSON, M.D., L.H.D., of Kansas City, Missouri, has been a practicing physician for over 45 years. His main business has been serving the King of kings. He is still doing faithfully in his seventieth year. He is president of Kansas City Bible College, pastor of Central Bible Church and has had a wide ministry as a speaker and author of books and magazine articles. He is a prince at story telling and one of America's greatest soul winners.

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3511 Genesee

THE SWORD OF THE LORD is one of the most widely read papers in Christian circles. I find it everywhere I go, and always the comments are favorable.

Personally, I am happy to see it come to my desk. It stirs the heart, refreshes the soul, and increases the zeal for better service to our King.

Happily yours in Christian bonds,

Dr. Walter L. Wilson

Dr. Walter L. Wilson

but never loved Him. Judas had served Christ, but never accepted Him. Judas had been in Christ's company, but never let Christ into his heart. Judas was called a disciple, but he followed the money instead of The Man. Judas' hanging was not "The Biggest Hanging."

On Calvary two thieves were hanged, but these were really nailed to the cross. We would hardly call this a hanging in the strict sense of the word. They were hanging there by the nails and suffered for their sins as everyone must do.

The Biggest Hanging of all hangings is the first hanging recorded in the Bible. Job, who lived in Abraham's day, wrote, "He stretcheth out the north over the empty place, and hangeth The Earth upon nothing" (Job 26:7). Did you notice what He hung it on? He made the earth out of nothing and then God hung it upon nothing. Did you notice carefully those words? Only a real, personal, individual, living, intelligent God could make the myriads of things on earth out of nothing, and then hang them over an empty space upon nothing. Do you really believe that He did it? Perhaps you folk, who say there is no personal God, or no individual God, would like to explain how an "idea" or "mind" or "truth" or "love" or "infinite" or any other abstract nonentity could make the earth out of nothing and then hang it upon nothing.

There are ninety-two basic chemical elements, which in their various forms and combinations form this earth. God has made gold for beauty, and aluminum for

lightness, and iron for strength. God has combined these elements with other elements to give us grains, vegetables, fruits, flowers and a myriad of other products. God took nothing and made something. Then He took the something and hung it upon nothing. All of this is given to us to encourage our faith.

It is written in Romans 4:17, "God quickeneth the dead, and calleth those things which be not as though they were." It is also recorded in I Corinthians 1:28, "God hath chosen things which are not, to bring to nought things which are." This is a wonderful message for the Christian heart. You do not need to have something with which God can begin to do something. You may have a very obscure life. You may have a very few gifts or talents. You may think you have no ability whatever. Just let the Holy Spirit have you in your weakness and with your emptiness and He will prove these passages to be true in your case.

If you are a lost sinner, wandering in the dark, with a heavy heart, you may come empty-handed and accept the Lord Jesus Christ to be the Lord of your life and the Saviour of your soul. You may come to Him with nothing. You will find in Him everything. Bring your problems to Him in your extremity. He can make something out of nothing.

(The above is one of thirty-three chapters in the book, *Strange Short Stories by the Doctor*, 123 pages, paper bound, which may be purchased for 75c from Sword of the Lord Publishers, Wheaton, Illinois.)



## WITH THE Evangelists

REPORTS FROM AMERICA'S OUTSTANDING SOUL WINNERS

By the Editor

From Corvallis, Oregon, Evangelist Jim Mercer writes, "I would like to report a wonderful one-church meeting with the First Baptist Church of Eugene, Oregon, where about 200 people came forward to make public decisions for Christ—110 of them first-time decisions. Fifty of them were taken into membership of the Church Thursday night following the meeting there. The pastor, Dr. Vance B. Webster, said many more would be taken in later as a result of the campaign."

Twenty-nine first-time decisions, were registered during a two-week revival conducted by Evangelist Benny Bates at the First Baptist Church, Covina, California, where H. B. O. Phillpotts is pastor. According to reports, this was the best meeting the church has enjoyed for many years. Sunday School attendance set a record for the fifty year history of the church, and the regular church attendance was beyond seating capacity in several instances.

Sponsored by the Christ for Lima committee, the T. W. Wilson evangelistic team has just completed a campaign in Lima, Ohio. Capacity crowds jammed the Lima Memorial Hall to hear the Word preached, and some 1550 children attended a special Saturday morning rally. Prominent city pastors, business men, and civic authorities were in attendance at the services and were enthusiastic in praising the evidence of God's power there.

Literally hundreds of souls came to Christ both at the Memorial Hall and at the ten local high schools where meetings were also held. Included in the number of conversions were 210 children and young people who responded at the special service; the owner of a well known movie chain; the son of a local bartender; and whole families who found the Lord.

Assisting Dr. Wilson in the campaign were Don DeVos who conducted the choir and congregational singing, and organist Herman Voss.

### Dr. Bob Jones Says:

One of our fine Bob Jones University girls who graduated two years ago and is now teaching school and doing missionary work in Alaska wrote recently and sent us \$25 for the Student Loan Endowment Fund and has promised \$25 a month during the year. This \$25 a month is the title of the young lady's salary for teaching. I quote some things she said:

"I have meant for some time to write you and send some money for the Student Loan Endowment Fund. Your letter spurred me on to action and enclosed you will find a check for \$25 and my pledge for \$25 a month.

"I know I can never repay what the Student Loan Endowment Fund has meant to me. It would have been impossible for me to finish school had it not been for the Fund and also the Lord taught me many things in being a work/loan student. Through it I truly learned that the 'greatest ability is dependability,' and that 'to the Christian there is no difference between the secular and the sacred.'

"Teaching school in Nenana, Alaska, is quite different from going to school at Bob Jones University. We have had 64 below weather this last week, but the weather is the least of our problems here. I don't notice the cold at all—it is the same old problem of sin. For a village of 350 people there are 7 bars and 5 liquor stores. We (another girl from Bob Jones University and myself) have had quite an opportunity to witness to the people and are praying for their salvation soon. Our principal has asked us to find another student from Bob

Rev. Roy V. Nelson, pastor of the First Baptist Church, San Pedro, California, reports the conclusion of a Soul-Winning Crusade, with Evangelist Eddie Wagner as evangelist. There were about 50 first-time decisions, along with many for baptism, consecration, tithing, soul winning, family altars, and church membership.

Evangelist Jimmie Threlfall recently completed a revival at the Simpson Creek Baptist Church, Bridgeport, West Virginia. Pastor Philip W. Horne writes that there were 35 who stepped out for Christ for the first time, and literally hundreds of others who made various decisions. The crowd on one night alone included by count members from 19 different churches in the immediate vicinity.

From the island of Trinidad comes the report of a Latin American Mission evangelistic campaign, the first such to be held there. Rev. Paul Van Gorder of Atlanta, Georgia was the speaker. In attendance at the opening service was His Excellency Sir Hubert Rance, governor of the island, who officially welcomed the team to the city. Most publicized feature of the campaign, however, was the singing of Anton Marco, former leading baritone of the San Carlo Opera Company. Three thousand persons attended the first meeting of the series, and 50 decisions were recorded.

The Splitlog Baptist Church, near Goodman, Missouri, was the scene of a good revival campaign conducted by Evangelist H. B. Barnett. Pastor John Jent relates that 22 were baptized one Sunday, and about 5 others made professions of faith.

Dr. Clifford Lewis, of Winona Lake, Indiana, has recently concluded a three-week "Christian Crusade" at the Industry Evangelical United Brethren Church, Muncie, Indiana, where Rev. Forest A. Reed is pastor. Along with the regular evangelistic services

Jones University to teach here next year. The Lord has opened the way for us to start a Child Evangelism Class soon so we are rejoicing over that.

"How I praise the Lord for the years spent at Bob Jones University and the things that I learned there. Many of them are just beginning to become a reality to me now. I feel I've been to chapel every day just recalling and having things I heard there pop up in my everyday living. They work no matter where I am or what I am doing. There is surely a need for Christian workers in Alaska. The field is neglected and there are few laborers. Certainly am praying that the goal for the Student Loan Endowment Fund will be reached. Am praying for you all at Bob Jones University."

It is the attitude and spirit of students like this Bob Jones University graduate that moves us to keep on keeping on in our determination to reach this million-dollar Student Loan Endowment Fund goal. We are appealing to you Christian friends to help us. Help us as generously as possible, but help us some at this time so we can reach the minimum goal we have set for the close of this school year the last of May.

Please keep praying for us, and pray for our ministerial and missionary students and the other students in all parts of the world as they are witnessing so faithfully for the Lord Jesus Christ. Thank you, and God bless you.

BOB JONES, Founder  
Bob Jones University  
Greenville, S. C.

(Advertisement)

### Important Memo--

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there were Booster Band meetings for the children, a great number of cottage prayer groups, ten radio programs, and intensive home visitation. Eighty definite first-time decisions were registered. Singer and saxophonist Erving Draper, of Alden, New York, was in charge of the music for the crusade.

Rev. Ray Noland, pastor of the Livingston Baptist Church of Delco, North Carolina, reports a revival conducted by Evangelist Ed Nelson from January 1 to January 20. Brother Noland writes, "We had a real revival in every sense of the word. The church seemed to reach a spiritual height that it had never reached before. . . . There were several very definite answers to prayer. . . . I do not know just how many made profession of salvation during the revival. . . . but I baptized thirty-three on the closing night. . . ."

Boomer, West Virginia, was the scene of a series of revival meetings held by Rev. D. A. (Scotch) McCall, pastor of Chicago's Tabernacle Baptist Church. Dr. McCall reports, "God gave us a good revival. Brother J. D. Anthony is the warm-hearted evangelistic pastor—a good preacher. They have some of the finest soul winners I have seen—men who go after men for Christ; that means spiritual women encouraging them. There were 34 who came on invitation. . . ."

### Genius of the Gospels

(Continued from page 2)

was led to accept perhaps uncritically the statements of liberal theologians.

In the second place, there is current among theologians a mistranslation of Luke 1:3, as given to the King James translation of the Bible. Actually Luke, in the original manuscripts, did not say that he had "perfect understanding of all things from the very first." What he said was that he had "perfect understanding of all things from above." The primary meaning of the Greek word *anōthen* is "from above" and it is usually so translated. It ought to have been so translated here, and it was a mistake to translate it "from the beginning." And this bad translation has been noted by great scholars for many years. Erasmus, Lightfoot, C. I. Scofield, B. H. Carroll, Matthew Henry, and Gausson, the great Swiss theologian, all insist that the translation should be "from above." Luke did not get his material by talking to Mary or the disciples. He was not an eyewitness of the birth of Christ nor of the ministry of Christ. He got the material in the Gospel of Luke "from above." Dr. A. T. Robertson, commenting on B. H. Carroll's statement, says, "The literal meaning of *anōthen* is 'from above' and the context in Luke's Gospel will make good sense with Dr. Carroll's translation of it."

The modern critics of the Bible, that is, the unbelieving critics, are not really scholarly, and good Christian men go wrong when they follow the pattern of such men in gospel criticism. And in this matter I believe only that Dr. Tenney followed other men wrong in a mistranslation and a misinterpretation of Luke 1:3 (*Inspiration of the Bible*, B. H. Carroll, page 51).

In conclusion, I must say that I cannot endorse the book, *The Genius of the Gospels*. I think the book ought to have been dropped from publication. However, I have the promise that if the book comes to another edition, it will be thoroughly revised, and Dr. Tenney has already given me a copy of a new

## Noteworthy NEWS Notes

DR. JOHN F. MACARTHUR, well-known pastor of the Hollywood Fountain Avenue Baptist church, who has resigned in order to return to full-time nationwide evangelistic endeavor, will, however, continue production of his popular west coast radio program "The Voice of Calvary," and will retain California residence.

MERV ROSELL and his team, at the invitation of the Rodeheaver, Hall-Mack Company, have compiled a new songbook, "Crusade Songs," designed especially for great revival campaigns. The book contains over a hundred choice hymns and choruses, and was compiled by Rosell, Howard Skinner, Hilding Halvarson, and the Rodeheaver consultant, George Sanville. Rosell has also authored several other books, including *Driftwood*, a compilation of illustrations; *How to Live With Yourself* and *Revival: God's Plan For Today*.

SINGSPIRATION has recently acquired the master recordings of more than 120 selections played and sung by members of the Old-Fashioned Revival Hour broadcast. Included in the number are favorites by pianist Rudy Atwood, the male quartet, and other well-known soloists and musicians associated with Dr. Charles E. Fuller on his world-wide ABC program.

THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH of Dallas, Texas, pastored by Dr. W. A. Criswell, is the largest among the 27,000 churches in the Southern Baptist Convention. It has a membership of 9,383. The average attendance in Sunday school is 2,681, and the total contributions last year for all expenses and missionary giving was \$724,434.56.

CHARLES FULLER CHATS WITH GENERAL MACARTHUR  
The founder and director of the "Old Fashioned Revival Hour," Charles E. Fuller, and his wife recently had the privilege of visiting with General Douglas MacArthur at his request.

The Fullers received their invitation through the suggestion of a lawyer friend who told General MacArthur of Mr. Fuller's repeated prayers over the radio network on the General's behalf. The Fullers were in New York at that time.

The General responded immediately, saying, "I should very much like to meet this man. I appreciate the prayers of real men of God. Could you get hold of him and have him over here at 4:30 this afternoon?"

The Fullers arranged to be on hand to meet the General and his wife in their 37th floor "tower suite" of the Waldorf Astoria Hotel.

Mr. Fuller says that he "could not help feeling the sincerity of the man, his fervent love of country, and . . . spiritual quality about the man, which to me was most heartening."

"He deplored the state of affairs in our country today," relates Mr. Fuller, "and he unquestionably has a firsthand knowledge of the real conditions, which he can use at the right moment to awaken Americans to their real peril."

"As we left," said Mr. Fuller, "we felt that we had met a real American and one of the few truly great statesmen of our day. My prayer to God was and ever since has been, 'Oh, God, use this man to help bring our beloved country back to a place of honored leadership among the nations of the world.'" ("Prophecy Monthly," 1-'52)

### PROVIDENCE BIBLE INSTITUTE RAISES \$51,794.62

The Providence Bible Institute, Dr. Howard Ferrin, President, is a good, sound, true-to-the-Bible, Bible Institute and we rejoice in the prosperity of this good school under the strong leadership of Dr. Ferrin. Some time ago they purchased the beautiful property at Barrington, Rhode Island, outbidding Catholics by exactly \$1, as was discovered when the bids were opened. They called that "the miracle dollar." Now in a three months' campaign by mail, Providence Bible Institute has raised \$51,794.62 to pay on the debt. May God richly bless this great school in the training of Christian workers.

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# Prayer and Intercession

By the late F. B. Meyer

"I thank my God upon every remembrance of you, Always in every prayer of mine for you all making request with joy."—Phil. 1:3, 4.

The epistles of Saint Paul are full of allusions to his prayers. We might almost call them his prayer book. Let us verify that assertion by turning to the epistles as they come on the pages of the Bible.

"God is my witness, whom I serve with my spirit in the gospel of his Son, that without ceasing I make mention of you always in my prayers; Making request..."—Rom. 1:9, 10a.

"I thank my God always on your behalf, for the grace of God which is given you by Jesus Christ."—I Cor. 1:4.

"I... Cease not to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers."—Eph. 1:16.

"For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father."—Eph. 3:14.

"We give thanks to God and the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, praying always for you."—Col. 1:3.

"I would that ye knew what great conflict I have for you, and for them at Laodicea, and for as many as have not seen my face in the flesh."—Col. 2:1.

"We give thanks to God always for you all, making mention of you in our prayers."—I Thess. 1:2.

"Wherefore also we pray always for you..."—II Thess. 1:11.

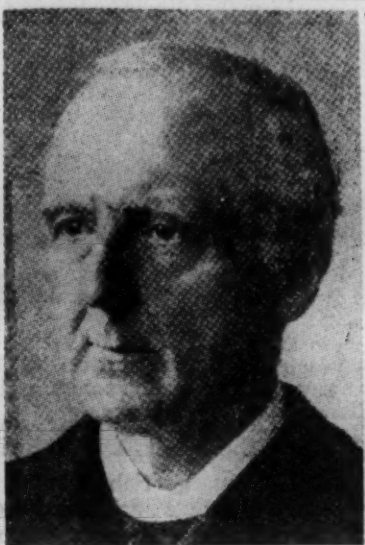
"I thank God... that without ceasing I have remembrance of thee..."—II Tim. 1:3.

"I thank my God, making mention of thee always in my prayers."—Philem. 4.

These texts are sufficient to substantiate the assertion that the epistles of Saint Paul abound in allusions to his prayers on behalf of his converts; and just as our Lord Jesus Christ ever lives to intercede, so the true pastor, Sunday school teacher, or Christian friend, should day and night, without ceasing, remember the saved and unsaved of his charge in prayer.

But there was a special liberty in the apostle's prayer, for in verse 4 he says, "Always in every supplication of mine, making my supplication with joy." Those of us who know what it is to pray, are familiar with the alternations that come over the soul when it waits before God. There are some tracts and passages in our daily prayer life which we tread with difficulty and tears. For those who seem so obdurate; for those who appear to have turned their backs determinedly upon God; for certain churches that appear hopelessly desolate and barren, we plead with strong crying and tears. We tread these acres of our prayer life, with weeping, sowing seed destined to bear an abundance of harvest fruit.

There are other parts of our



F. B. Meyer

daily prayer life that are illumined with joy. When we come to pray for a beloved child, for some kindred spirit, for some blessed work of God which enjoys the perpetual dew of His favor, then it is easy to pray, and we make our supplication and request with joy. We know exactly what Saint Paul meant, when he said that there was a liberty, a freedom, a gladness in prayer which suffused his heart as he prayed for the Philippians.

Nothing would be better for most of us than a great revival in our habits of private prayer. Perhaps we cannot do as Luther, who was accustomed to say, "I have so much work to do today that I cannot get through it with less than three hours of prayer"; or as Bishop Andrewes, who regularly set apart five hours each day for private devotion; or as Law, the author of the *Serious Call*, who was accustomed, as the clock rang out each third hour, to turn to prolonged prayer, allocating to each occasion some special subject. But that we should pray more, that we should labor in prayer as Epaphras did, that we should cultivate the art of prayer, is clear.

Habits of prayer need careful cultivation. The instinct and impulse are with us by the grace of the Holy Spirit, but we need to cultivate the gracious inward movements until they become solidified into an unbending practice.

As far as possible, we should set apart one period in each day for prayer, and there can be no question that the morning hour is best. When the body is fresh from sleep, and before the rush of daily thought, care, and activity invades the mind, ere we hold intercourse with our nearest and dearest, then the bells ring for matins, and it is wise to heed their call.

Give Him thy first thoughts  
So shalt thou keep  
His company all day  
And in Him sleep.

It is good, also to have an oratory. There should be, as far as possible, one room and one spot in the room, or one garden path, or a walk over the moor or beside the sea, where our seasons of private devotion are spent, and our prayers are wont to be made. The posture is a secondary matter. Many a Heaven-moving prayer has been uttered whilst the feet have been plodding along the road, or the hands plying their toils, or when weakness has chained the body to the couch. Whilst Paul was floating for a night and a day in the deep, his soul was as much wrapt in the spirit of prayer as when he was in a trance in the temple.

A rich man, visited by his pastor, was in sore distress because when praying during the night he had not removed his nightcap. His scruples were, however, allayed by the wise and skillful reply, "Some people pray, as Christians mostly do, with their shoes on and their heads uncovered; others, like the Jews and Mohammedans, pray with their heads covered and their shoes off. Now, I daresay, my friend, when you prayed, you had not your shoes on?" "No, sir, I hadn't," was the eager answer, and the troubled soul was comforted. But it would have been better far if it had never been troubled. It is

## Here's How It Happened

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"I will tell you briefly of how it convicted me of my sins and showed me that Jesus Christ was my only hope.

"I had not been inside of a church for several months and had not even talked to anyone about my soul for nearly as long. I was deep rooted in sin and was going deeper.

"A godly man who for years had been praying for me and had several times witnessed to me, subscribed to your paper for me in hopes that it would help me to see Christ. He had sent me Christian literature before but most of it remained unread and was soon discarded. A Bible that he had given me collected dust on the shelf having seldom been opened. But there was something different about *THE SWORD OF THE LORD*. I would read an article and it would hit home, bring conviction to my heart. Each week it seemed to be the same. I did not believe a person should be so fanatical but I continued to read those convicting Scriptures and the explanation of them. I do not remember what articles were most convincing, but I remember the ones that brought out the truths of Satan and Hell lingered in my mind until I saw their meaning in my life. When I came to the realization of my sinful state in life and where I was headed, I asked Jesus to come in and remove the power of the Devil and cleanse me of my sins. The wonderful saving power of Jesus Christ and the love and grace of God enabled me to be born into the kingdom of God.

"It was not easy for me at first as a babe in Christ. I struggled against the temptations of the Devil which prevailed unmercifully, (Praise God for giving me sufficient strength to overcome them) in modernistic churches, and no fellowship because I was in an environment where Christ was seldom even mentioned, except in profanity. Many times I fell short and yielded to temptations. But the grace of God held me up and He continued to use *THE SWORD OF THE LORD* to bring to me an understanding of His Word which had begun to show evidence of use.

"God soon led me out of the environment where Satan prevailed because I did not have sufficient strength as yet to overcome his wiles. He led me to a fundamental church where I could receive the true gospel and true fellowship. I was baptized and joined the church and now enjoy working for the Lord there, showing others the wonderful way of salvation.

"In November the good Lord made it possible for me to attend *THE SWORD OF THE LORD* conference in Chicago. I can never express in words my appreciation of your efforts in making this possible. It resulted in a more complete yielding of my life for Christ and as a result of it I have placed my life in the hands of the Lord for full time Christian service. Since then I have devoted as much time to study and devotion as possible. I plan to enter school this fall for training for the mission field."

Mr. Robert Bright of Somerset, Indiana, will receive a certificate for \$5.00 worth of *SWORD* literature for this unusual story.

Do you know of an exceptional case where God used the *SWORD OF THE LORD* or some of our books to win someone to Christ or to rededicate his life to the Lord? Write up the details as carefully as possible and send them to Mr. Walter E. Handford, c/o *SWORD OF THE LORD*, Wheaton, Illinois.

If your story is chosen to be used in this column you will receive a certificate worth \$5.00 of *Sword of the Lord* literature. If necessary we will edit and correct spelling so don't worry about literary perfection.

of real service to have the fixed closet, and the habitual attitude there; but is is a great mistake to magnify any of these accidents and circumstances as though they were essential.

The main point for each of us is to have a spirit of prayer, so that the exercise be not irksome and tedious, but that the spirit may spring to it with delight. We must not, however, wait for the high tide to rise before we launch forth on the voyage. If there is not deep water, we must make what use we can of the shallows. If we cannot step off to the big ship, we must make for it in the little boat which draws only a foot or two of water. If the gale is not blowing to fill our flagging sails, we must make what use we can of the light breezes that dimple the calm and lethargic ocean. Good is it when the soul leaps toward the prayer hour, as a child to mother, or wife to husband; but failing this eager desire, let us pray because we ought, and because the supreme Lover of Souls will be disappointed if we do not appear at the trysting-place to keep our appointment.

The ways by which the sluggish soul can be incited to pray are various, and hints may be jotted down here which will be useful.

When the hour for prayer arrives, allow time for staying on the threshold of the temple, to remember how great God is, how greatly He is to be praised, how great your needs are. Remember the distance between you and Him, and be sure that it is filled with love. Recall the promises

that bid you to approach. Consider all the holy souls that have entered and are entering those same portals; and do not forget the many occasions in which the lowering skies have cleared, the dark clouds have parted, and weakness has become power during one brief spell of prayer.

We specially need the aid of the Holy Spirit, who helps our infirmities in prayer. He kindled the spark of devotion at the first, and knows well how to fan it into a flame. It is good to confide in Him, to confess that you would but cannot pray, that your desires are languid and your love cool, that the lips which should be touched with fire are frost-bitten, that the wings which ought to have borne you to Heaven are clipped. He understands and loves to be appealed to, and will assuredly quicken the flagging soul until it shall mount up as on eagle wings, running without wearying, and walking without faintness. One look to the Spirit of prayer will find Him in the heart. As our Teacher He begins to repeat the words of petition, which we list after Him. As our Comforter and Paraclete He stands beside us, showing us where to aim our petitions, and steadying our trembling hands. As the Spirit of Life, He makes us free from the law of sin and death.

Felt art Thou, and relieving tears  
Fall, nourishing our young resolves;

Felt art Thou, and our icy fears  
The sunny smile of love dissolves.

It is advisable to use the Bible  
(Continued on page 7)



## THE PRIEST WHO FOUND CHRIST

Joseph Zacheo  
(Pronounced Za-keo)

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## Practical Help For Servicemen

"Our Boys in Khaki and Blue"—a Series of 8 Articles for Men in Service to Begin March 14 in The Sword of the Lord

Before us is a remarkable series of eight Scripture-packed, practical, helpful messages written for men in the armed services of our country. We have been fortunate to secure the permission of the publishers to run these in serial form in *The Sword of the Lord*, and they will begin March 14. These messages are designed to keep our service men in the paths of God. They are interestingly written and read like a story book. This series is the consequence of correspondence by Rev. Rolf L. Veenstra with hundreds of men. The author says:

"In the providence of God my entire ministry has been spent under the shadow of war. The electrifying news that Hitler had invaded Poland came over our radio the very week that I was ordained. Since that time, with the help of such consecrated Christians as make up the servicemen's committees in most of our churches, I have written hundreds of letters to our men in uniform. And it has been strikingly noticeable throughout this correspondence that certain recurrent themes, like poignant passages in a symphony, keep cropping up. Fellows from all the several services, differing in age by as much as twenty years, fighting on fronts that are separate by half a world, all give voice to the same sentiments, ask the same questions. In a sense, then, this little book may be said to have been written by our boys themselves, rather than for them."

These messages may be just what your beloved son, husband, nephew, cousin, or friend need to keep him in the straight and narrow path.

For instance: your young son was drafted at an early age... was never thrown with "the crowd." He never knew what it was to curse. Now daily he hears profanity ringing in his ears. Will he succumb? The author says, in the first chapter,

"No sin is more contagious than bad speech. A man may be surrounded with evil women and not commit adultery; he may be surrounded with tempting possessions and still not steal. But rare is the man who can hear swearing all about him and not occasionally give vent himself, in thought, if not in speech, to those same expressions. Speech, you see, is so imitative: we learn to speak at all that way! The way people pronounce the very same words—like the boys from Alabama versus those from Brooklyn—is acquired by imitation."

Then the message tells the reader how to overcome this temptation. What a help it will be to those who read it!

Your loved one may have been protected when at home not a bottle of beer was ever allowed. But now daily he is in company with men who laugh at "Mama's boy"; he isn't in use to this abuse. Do you think, in that environment, he will come through triumphant? Well, not unless he has encouragement and help. Mr. Veenstra has a remarkable chapter on the evils of drink among service men, quoting David Lloyd George, who said: "We are fighting Germany, Austria, and drink, and as far as I can see the greatest of these foes is drink." My, what an enlightening chapter—one your loved ones will never forget!

What about gambling? "You may wonder why the Quartermaster Corps purchased 750,000 pairs of dice at one time in 1943, to be sold through the PX's, when the government officially frowns upon their use..." Then the author tells why.

"... there were 100,000 decks with marked cards at one time in the services. The crooks in the armed forces... (In World War II) robbed the gullible amateur gamblers of as much as fifty million dollars a month." Statistics are given which every man, especially service man, ought to have.

Then other chapters on "Why the Bible?" "Why Chapel-Attendance?" "Why Christian Companions?" "Faith in These Times," are

equally important to service men who are besieged with temptations on every hand.

We are making it possible ahead of time—before running the articles—for you to enter subscriptions to men in the service for whom you are responsible, spiritually speaking, for their welfare. And this series comes at the time when you can send subscriptions at the following special low rate:

\$2 for the first 1-year subscription;  
\$3 for two 1-year subscriptions;  
\$5 for four 1-year subscriptions;  
\$10 for nine 1-year subscriptions.

Surely you have a list of men serving our country whom you would like to help through these special messages designed for them. We will begin the series March 14 hoping to get YOUR subscriptions in ahead of time in order that those for whom you are especially interested will not miss one message of this remarkable series, to be run eight weeks. We know this is what they need in this hour of crisis. We know when this series begins, and you have read even the

## Present-Day Methodism

(Continued from page 1)

dexterously blended that the English reader gets the impression that it is one continuous recital drawn from a single source. As soon as the student's attention is called to the fact that there are traces of several documents in the material, he sees the evidence at once.

"How many documents can be traced in the Pentateuch?"

"There is some disagreement among students in this field, of course, but there is general agreement that there are at least four, to which have been given the names, 'J,' 'E,' 'P,' and 'D.'"—page 31.

"And let us give thanks also for the endless and sacrificial patience of modern scholarship that has opened up the history of the documents composing the so-called books of Moses, and made it no longer necessary for us strainedly to attempt to harmonize them in all particulars as though they were all the work of Moses. We are free as were the men who put these documents together to draw our own conclusions..."

—Dr. Rollin H. Walker, *Christian Advocate*, Sept. 9, 1943.

What a strange cause for thanksgiving! Scholars, we are told, have discovered that Moses did not write the Pentateuch, and therefore we do not have to "strainedly attempt to harmonize" the conflicting documents composing the so-called books of Moses. We are to sit as judges of the books and draw our own conclusions, presumably, as to what may be genuine and what may be false!

Conflicting Creation Stories in Bible, Methodist Leaders Say, Which Cannot Be Harmonized, and Which Are Unscientific.

"One is interested to note that the stories of creation in Genesis 1:1 to 2:3 and Genesis 2:4-21 are plainly from different sources... We are grateful that the editor did not compress the two accounts into artificial consistency... Some people with

first chapter, you will regret not having done your part to bless others. So make out a list of service men today. You be the blessing God intended you to be to them. We are waiting on your subscriptions before printing "Our Boys in Khaki and Blue." Remember the special subscription rate on now—\$2 for the first 1-year subscriptions, and \$1 for each additional yearly subscription sent in at the same time. Send your list today so the subscriptions will be received in time for the first message March 14, of "Our Boys in Khaki and Blue."

undue anxiety to maintain the inspiration of the Bible have insisted that the Genesis accounts of creation are final and authoritative geology and biology as well as religion... No one would be quite as much disgusted by the attempt to prove that all they say was authoritative science as the writers of these stories themselves... What they did was to take the creation stories with which they were familiar, shear off their grotesqueness, pasteurize out of them their polytheism, and make them expressions of their pure and lofty monotheism... Moreover if we insist that the creation stories are scientific, we certainly will not be able to convince young people who have been studying science; and they alas will begin to doubt also their religious message..."

Once more the statement is made that we have contradictory stories from different sources in Genesis. In this instance it is the creation story. There are apparent contradictions on the very face of the accounts. Any attempt to make both accounts consistent would have to be on an unreal basis. The scientific accuracy of Genesis is dismissed by stating this is even evident to young people. We are told that if we insist the Bible is true regarding the creation story our young people will begin to doubt the religious message of Genesis. The way to hold them to the religious message of Genesis, Dr. Walker states, is to assure them of the inaccuracy of Genesis! What reasoning! Dr. Walker further states that the writers of Genesis took familiar stories and trimmed away the grotesqueness and polytheism and thus produced the book of Genesis in its present form. Genesis, then, to Methodist leaders, is simply composed of revised and edited pagan stories.

How different from what the Bible claims for itself! One need only to see that the Lord Jesus



## Sunday School time at our house-- how well I remember it!

The hustle and bustle of getting ready... the ride to the church in the new survey... the sweet songs and stories about Jesus, the memory verses.

Then came the day when there was no Sunday School for us. Crop failures had taken their toll; the beautiful horses had to be sold and there was no way to go.

A Sunday School must be started in our own neighborhood—but how to do it? What organizational plan should be followed? What literature used? In spite of the inexperience of those in charge, God blessed and soon a good Sunday School was in progress. But how we needed help!

And so do hundreds of other Sunday Schools over the country today, including those represented by the approximately 71,000 Sunday School teachers and officers in the homes of SWORD OF THE LORD readers (according to a survey conducted last August). That is the reason we want to make available to you—through special articles in the paper and through the advertising we carry from week to week—valuable help about the kind of literature to be used, about how to enlist pupils and win them to Christ, about how to take advantage of every precious minute of the Sunday School hour.

Sunday School teachers and officers—and you pastors, too—watch these columns!

FAIRY SHAPPARD,  
Advertising Manager

Christ credited the Pentateuch to Moses as the author. The Lord Jesus Christ in Luke 24:27 spoke of "Moses and all the prophets." In Luke 16:31, He held the writings of Moses and the prophets as the final court of appeal. "If they hear not Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded, though one arose from the dead." Our Lord Jesus Christ upheld the Mosaic authorship and absolute accuracy of Genesis.

### The Fall of Man—A Legend, Methodist Leader Teaches

"The modern man, noticing the absence of high-sounding abstract language in the legend of the fall..."

"It is the effort of an ancient philosopher to uphold faith in the goodness of the Creator in view of the facts of human experience that seem to make against that faith... The story of course bristles with difficulties if anyone wants to make literal history out of it..."—Dr. Rollin H. Walker, *Christian Advocate*, July 2, 1942.

The fall of man was certainly not a legend to the Apostle Paul, but literal history. "Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned" (Rom. 5:12).

Notice the historicity in this statement: "For Adam was first formed, then Eve. And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived was in the transgression" (I Tim. 2:13, 14).

### Cain and Abel Stories Declared to Be Inconsistent by Methodist Leader

"The ancient tradition which the writer records seems to presuppose an inhabited world, but this of course is out of harmony with the previous story of the creation of Adam and Eve as the first pair. The ancient traditions of the patriarchs are colored by the later developments of the race or the nation and this coloring makes the stories to some extent inconsistent."—Dr. Rollin H. Walker, *Christian Advocate*, July 16, 1942.

Here the Word of God is declared to be "out of harmony"—"colored"—"inconsistent." Man once more sits in judgement and pronounces the infallible Word of God to be in error.

### Flood Story is of Pagan Origin, Methodist Leader States

"The editor of the book of Genesis makes no attempt to (Continued on page 7)

## Announcing Two Christian Associations Merged

The WORLD CHRISTIAN FUNDAMENTALS ASSOCIATION, INC., of which Dr. Paul W. Rood was president for many years, has joined the SLAVIC GOSPEL ASSOCIATION, INC., of which he is chairman and Peter Deyneka is founder and general director.

By merging these two Associations, we will be able to extend the Lord's work farther and wider to reach the unreached with the gospel. We invite all God's children to join us in prayer and through their gifts to enable us to send out and support more missionaries, to distribute more New Testaments and other fundamental gospel literature among the Slavic-speaking people and others, as well as the Jewish people in Cuba and Uruguay, to broadcast twenty half-hour Russian programs weekly on short wave from HCJB, Quito, Ecuador, to maintain the Russian Bible Institute in Argentina, and to help, with relief, the needy Christians and D.P.'s in Europe. Our fields are Europe, South America, U.S.A., Canada and Alaska.

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## Present-Day Methodism

(Continued from page 6)

harmonize the two accounts of the flood which he has woven together. Of course the writers of these stories knew nothing of the size of the earth and the vast continents across the seas, and of the difficulties of the polar animals in getting down to the ark. With our enlarged knowledge of the earth nothing is easier than to make a joke of the whole story. And it behooves the teacher not to spend time and energy in trying to defend it in its details. We are told that after Noah came out of the ark he made a great sacrifice of thanksgiving unto the Lord. In the parallel pagan account, which is older than this story, the gods are said to have gathered above the sacrifice like flies. Our writer has pasteurized the paganism out of the story."—Dr. Rollin H. Walker, *Christian Advocate*, July 16, 1942.

"In the story of what happened from the creation to the flood of Noah, the sacred historian like an alchemist is turning the lead of the heathen world tradition into the gold of pure monotheism. After the flood when Noah came out of the ark, he offered a sacrifice of thanksgiving. The pagan rendition of this story which was perhaps the source of the Biblical account tells us that the gods smelled the sweet savor

of Noah's sacrifice and swarmed around like flies."—Dr. Rollin H. Walker, *Christian Advocate*, June 28, 1945. The above quotations follow the usual pattern of the unbelieving higher criticism. The account of the flood is supposed to be from a pagan origin which an editor purged before putting it into Genesis. The editor wove two contradictory accounts together and kept the contradictions. The account of the flood in its details evidently cannot be defended as to accuracy because the teacher is urged not to spend time and energy trying to defend it. A simple appeal to the New Testament will show the complete endorsement of the account of the flood. The Lord Jesus Christ in Luke 17:26, 27 authenticates the Genesis account. Peter likewise refers to the flood in I Peter 3:20 and II Peter 2:5. In each instance the Genesis account is accepted as true. The writer of Hebrews also declares the Genesis record of the flood to be truth (Heb. 11:7). What abundant confirmation in the New Testament of the Genesis account of the flood!

### Abraham's Offering of Isaac is the Survival of a Heathen Custom, Methodist Leader Declares

"We are told that God allowed Abraham in that dark old day when men sacrificed their sons to their divinities to become obsessed with the idea that he must show his utter devotion to God by sacrificing to Him his only son. Intensely religious men sometimes become victims of a morbid conscience, especially when their physical condition is below normal. One remembers the struggles of his own adolescence when,

(Continued on page 8)

## Book Reviews

BOOK REVIEWS IN THIS COLUMN WILL USUALLY BE BY JUDGES OF THE SWORD BOOK CLUB AND WILL BE SIGNED

**20 YEARS WITH BILLY SUNDAY.** By Homer Rodeheaver. Rodeheaver Hall-Mack Co., Winona Lake, Indiana. 149 pages, \$1.50.

A very realistic picture of Billy Sunday, the man, by one who was intimately associated with him for twenty years. Billy Sunday lives in these pages—ball player, Y.M.C.A. worker, evangelist, man of prayer, dynamic personality, and all but irresistible before tremendous audiences. Mr. Rodeheaver, very properly and very correctly gives emphasis to the place of song in revival efforts, stressing the old familiar songs of the church. A thoroughly readable and enjoyable volume.

DR. JOHN L. HILL

**THE BIBLE AND MODERN SCIENCE.** By Henry M. Morris. Moody Press, Chicago. 187 pages, \$2.50.

*The Bible and Modern Science* held my attention from the moment that I read the first sentence of the author's preface—"The purpose of this book very frankly and without apology is to win people to a genuine faith in Jesus Christ as the eternal Son of God and their personal Saviour; and to assist in the confirmation and strengthening of the faith of those who have already received Him in this life." Dr. Morris has given us a book of interest and information. He has provided both the young and the old with a definite answer for those who scoff at God's creative work—the flood, the fulfillment of prophecies, and the infallibility of the Bible. The book is written in an easy readable style, with a splendid list of selective references at the close of each chapter.

DR. LEE ROBERSON

**THE UNTOLD KOREA STORY.** By Bob Pierce, as told to Ken Anderson. Zondervan Publishing House, Grand Rapids, Michigan. 89 pages, \$1.25.

This is the account of what Bob Pierce saw during his memorable tour of Korea. It is told (out) in very readable and moving words. The Koreans are suffering as only people in battle-torn lands can suffer, and that suffering is opening a wide opportunity for the gospel. Mr. Pierce and his fellow-workers were mightily used in helping to meet this challenge. The fortitude of the Christians and their faithfulness under their afflictions will make a powerful appeal to the reader. We need this book to help us to see what Christ can do for those who trust Him, and to challenge us to greater zeal in His service.

DR. T. ROLAND PHILIPS.

**GLEANINGS FROM THE WORD.** By Keith L. Brooks. Van Kampen Press, Wheaton, Illinois. 151 pages, \$2.00.

From long and careful study of the Scriptures come these choice illustrations. These expository helps are made immediately available by an excellent topical index containing subjects such as affliction, Christ, Christian life, faith, prayer, second coming, etc. A very handy and helpful reference work to have at one's fingertips. In addition to the topical index, there is a Scripture index which adds appreciably to the usefulness of the volume.

DR. V. RAYMOND EDMAN

**THE TREASURY OF QUIET TALKS.** Selections from S. D. Gordon. Fleming H. Revell Company, New York. 251 pages, \$2.50.

There is something to be said for culling out what an editor considers best from various books of an author and making thus a jar of cream out of many quarts of milk. The trouble in dealing with S. D. Gordon is to decide what is the 'best' in each, where all are so fine. This treasury could not

## Jo Paid For This One!

If You've Wanted To Send Subscriptions During the Campaign and Wondered Who To Send Them to, Read What Jo Did!

By Grace MacMullen, Circulation Manager

This morning a letter came to us in the mail from a dear old lady in Kansas. "I know my subscription to THE SWORD OF THE LORD expires this month," she wrote, "and I know I'm not going to try to live without it if you can find it in your heart to wait on me till February 6. THE SWORD OF THE LORD is my meat, bread and dessert. I just can't live without it, but I didn't have enough money in January. December was a hard month for us. I plan in February to renew and if I possibly can will send \$1.00 for the Missionary and Minister's Fund. Surely I'm not doing wrong to feed our souls. I cut out a lot of papers I was taking, but kept THE SWORD OF THE LORD. I first got it as a gift during World War I. (Probably she means W.W. II, as the paper was founded in 1934) I wish I could send you \$10.00 but I can't. I think if our ministers would take THE SWORD OF THE LORD, apostasy would fade out of the churches and again we would have Holy Ghost preaching. I know this: one can starve spiritually as well as physically, and that is what is wrong with our churches today. The members are starving spiritually and don't know it."

"I give you my honest promise under God as a witness that I'll send the money February 6 if we are not ill. Myself, I don't amount to much. I can't walk in the house without help, but if my daughter can make it, it will come then or just as soon afterward. May God bless you and THE SWORD OF THE LORD staff in the noble work you are doing."

I was reading that letter aloud to my sister, Mrs. Elizabeth Handford, who shares my office, when Miss Jo Williams, one of the SWORD bookkeepers, came in.

She said, "It must be wonderful to get to read letters like that."

"It is, Jo," I said. "Here, read it all the way through." When Jo finished the letter she was as moved and thrilled by it as Libby and I had been, and she said,

"You know, I'd like to send her the SWORD. I need some more names to fill out my subscriptions, anyway." (Sword workers have promised generous help on the subscription campaign.) "May I send the paper to her?"

"You surely may," I said. I think that the paper will be a weekly thrill to the dear old lady in Kansas, but in my heart I'm as sure as can be that Jo will get just as much blessing out of giving it to her.

Then I thought about all you friends of THE SWORD OF THE LORD who are helping in the subscription campaign. Surely some of you would like to give more subscriptions, too, but you don't have names. I wish you could see the letters we get. So many, many dear people have debts to pay, large families to support on small salaries, big hospital bills, troubles of every kind. Every day I get a letter from someone who wants THE SWORD OF THE LORD and yet cannot pay for it.

Jo paid for this one—that's true. But there are plenty of others—needy people who want THE SWORD OF THE LORD, who would read it and find it manna from Heaven. Maybe you'd like to pay for subscriptions to some of these. YOU CAN HELP. If you want to send subscriptions, but find you don't know who to send them to, then just write to us, will you? We'll be so happy to give you the opportunity of bringing blessing.... and there will be eternal rewards in Heaven, I know.

## Prayer and Intercession

(Continued from page 5)

specially, and afterwards some spirit-stirring book, be it memoir or spiritual treatise, to stir up the black hot coals and compel them to break into a Heaven-ascending flame. The story of George Muller, of James Gilmour, or of David Brainerd, the writings of Samuel Rutherford, Andrew Murray and Frances Ridley Havergal, the poetry of Horatius Bonar and John Keble, are of perennial use in this direction.

Sometimes it will be the confession of recent blacksliding and inconsistency, which have drawn a veil over the face of Christ; sometimes the overflowing of thanksgiving, as you count over your blessings, one by one; sometimes the urgency of need to intercede for some beloved friend or friends; but always, if you look for it, you may discover some wave of blessed helpfulness, which, flowing up on the shore of your life, will, as it recedes, afford you an opportunity of passing out with it from the high and dry stones to the bosom of the heaving ocean.

One condition of successful prayer must never be forgotten. We must believe that God is, and that He is the rewarder of them that diligently seek Him. The Father is the object of our prayer, through the mediation of our Lord Jesus, and by the aid of the Holy Spirit; but however we conceive of it, whether the Father, or the Son, or the Holy Spirit, is the prominent object before our thought, we must believe that there is an eye that witnesses our poor endeavors, an ear that

be bad, considering its source. It must be good. But almost any other chapters could be equally good. . . . For anyone who can own only one volume of S. D. Gordon, I recommend this.

DR. BOB JONES, JR.

Write today for information about Sword Book Club, 214 West Wesley Street, Wheaton, Illinois.

listens, a mind that can be impressed and affected by our requests. But further, we need a living faith which reckons on the faithfulness of God, and believes that it has already received its petitions, when they are founded on specific promises and evidently prompted by the Holy Spirit. When we pray, it is not enough merely to speak a long list of requests into the ear of God, it becomes us to wait after each one, and to receive by an appropriating act of the soul. It is as though we saw God take from the shelves of His storehouse the boon on which we had set our heart, label it with our name, and put it aside until the precise moment arrived in which He could bestow it on us without hurt. But whether it is in our hands or not is of small matter, because "we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him." Well may George Herbert sing:—

*Oh, what an easy, quick access,  
My blessed Lord, art Thou! how suddenly*

*May our requests Thine ear invade!*

*To show that state dislikes not easiness.*

*If I but lift mine eyes, my suit is made:*

*Thou canst no more not hear, than Thou canst die.*

*Since then these three wait on Thy throne,*

*Ease, power, and love; I value prayer so,*

*That, were I to leave all but one,*

*Wealth, fame, endowments, virtues, all should go:*

*I and dear prayer would together dwell,*

*And quickly gain, for each inch lost, an ell.*

(From the book, *The Epistle to the Philippians, A Devotional Commentary* by F. B. Meyer. Published by The Religious Tract Society, London. Soon to be republished by Baker Book House, Grand Rapids, Michigan.)

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By DR. ROBERT G. LEE

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Up and Down a Tree.  
Boo.

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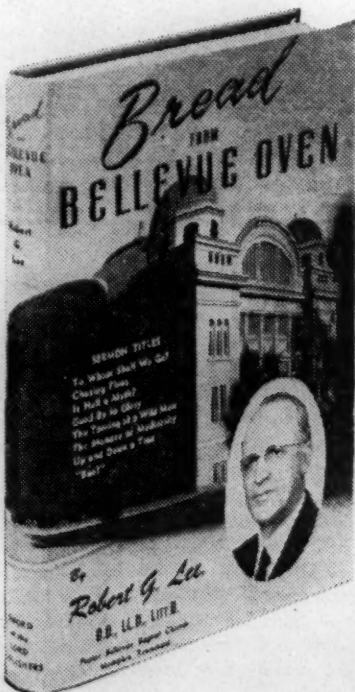
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## Present-Day Methodism

(Continued from page 7)

endeavoring to give himself wholly and recklessly to God, he became possessed of a conviction that he ought to make sacrifices that were not required of him by a gracious heavenly Father; but when he summoned himself to obey this morbid conscience, suddenly a light from Heaven shone into his mind and he knew that God did not require such a sacrifice. . . . The Scriptures emphasizing the love of God are the best antidote to an unhealthy conscience."—Dr. Rollin H. Walker, *Christian Advocate*, July 26, 1945.

Dr. Walker makes the following suggestions in the above article: Abraham was following the custom of dark old days in sacrificing Isaac; the idea to offer Isaac originated in Abraham; he was the victim of a morbid conscience; it was not required by God. How different is the true record in the Word of God! The Word declares that God tried Abraham and told him to "take now thy son, thine only son Isaac, whom thou lovest, and get thee into the land of Moriah; and offer him there for a burnt-offering upon one of the mountains which I will tell thee of" (Gen. 22:2). Because of Abraham's willingness to obey God at any cost, Abraham proved his love to God (Gen. 22:12). God promised him great blessing "because thou hast done this thing, and hast not withheld thy son, thine only son" (Gen. 22:16).

The writer of Hebrews adds further testimony to the true record in these words, "By faith Abraham, when he was tried, offered up Isaac: and he that had received the promises offered up his only begotten son. . . . accounting that God was able to raise him up, even from the dead: from whence also he received him in a figure" (Heb. 11:17, 19).

The human wisdom of the writer in the *Advocate* would try to set aside the inspired Word of God.

### Stories of Joseph—Methodist Leaders Assert that There are Two Conflicting Stories Interwoven in Genesis, Take Your Choice

"There are two accounts of the crime against Joseph. Both accounts agree that the brethren plotted to kill him. One says Reuben dissuaded them by suggesting that they cast him into one of the bottle-neck cisterns that were frequent around Dothan intending secretly to rescue him, but Midianite merchantmen passing by and hearing his cries lifted him out and kidnapped him. The other account says that Ishmaelite merchants hove in sight and Judah, in order to save his brother from death, suggested that they sell him to the Ishmaelites as a slave. And so they did. The editor who puts these accounts together makes no attempt to harmonize them. He seems to say, 'Take your choice.'"

—Dr. Rollin H. Walker, *Christian Advocate*, September 3, 1942.

"Look at the story of Joseph, for example. There are two accounts concerning how he was taken away from his father; one is that his jealous brothers sold him to the Ishmaelites and the other is that he was kidnapped by the Midianites. . . . Without having the assistance of Biblical criticism we would spend ourselves in aimless contradictions, and at times miss fundamentals."—Rev. Thomas F. Chilcote, *Christian Advocate*, December 17, 1942.

In the above articles once more it is brought to our attention that the Methodists teach that Genesis is a book containing glaring contradictions. Two conflicting accounts of the story of Joseph have gotten into the book, they claim. The contradictions are put in by the editor (Moses is not the author) who makes no attempt to harmonize them. The editor of Genesis, the Methodists state,

leaves it up to you to take your choice which account you prefer.

The alleged contradiction is based on the assumption that documents J and E, each with a conflicting story, have been woven together by an editor to produce Chapter 37. The contradictions have been allowed to remain in our text. Especially when the critics divide verse 28 into two documents, do we see the basis of the alleged contradictions. The critics divide the verse as follows:

E. "And there passed Midianites, merchantmen and they drew and lifted Joseph out of the pit. And they brought Joseph to Egypt."

J. "And they sold Joseph to the Ishmaelites for twenty pieces of silver."

The above division of the verse makes the narrative self-contradictory. One account (E) states the Midianites drew Joseph out of the pit and took him to Egypt. The other account (J) declares the brothers sold Joseph to the Ishmaelites.

Dr. Oswald T. Allis in his book, *The Five Books of Moses* (p. 85), points out that the words, "and they sold Joseph," as they stand in the Bible, make it quite plain that the brothers (v. 23) who put Joseph in the pit were the "they" who drew him out, and the "they" does not refer to the Midianites.

The use of the names "Ishmaelites" and "Midianites" has been cited by critics to undermine the veracity of the Biblical record. A caravan of Ishmaelites was seen coming and Judah suggested that Joseph be sold to them. Then the Bible states that Midianite merchantmen passed by and the brothers sold Joseph to the Ishmaelites; but in verse 36 it is stated that the Midianites sold Joseph into Egypt. There is no reason to doubt the historical accuracy of the statements as they stand. Various solutions have been proposed, such as, "The Ishmaelites were called 'Midianites.'" (Robert Young, LL.D., *Concise Critical Commentary*, p. 26.) It has also been suggested that the "Midianite merchants" were with that caravan of Ishmaelites." (John D. Davis, *Dictionary of the Bible*, p. 501.) Dr. Melvin Grove Kyle writes that there are

"many opinions advanced which may prove to be correct. . . . Almost nothing is known of the interrelation of the trans-Jordanic tribes in that age other than the few hints in the Bible. And who can say what manner of persons might be found in a caravan which had wandered about no one knows where, or how long, to pick up trade before it turned into the northern caravan route."—"The Deciding Voice of the Monuments in Biblical Criticism," *International Standard Bible Encyclopedia*, p. 1739.

It is not honest for the critics to assume a contradiction in the text when there is such scanty evidence upon which to base a decision, and where also there are satisfactory solutions to the difficulties.

### Stories of the Exodus

Once more a Methodist leader tells the membership of his church that the Bible is not trustworthy. Two conflicting stories appear in Exodus also.

"Then as to the manner of the passages the sources do not agree. One document (Exod. 14:21) says that Moses stretched out his hand toward the sea; and the Lord caused the water to go back by a strong east wind all night. . . . But the editor of the book of Exodus puts in immediate connection the parallel statement from another source which says that the waters were a wall unto them on their right hand and on their left. By putting these two accounts together and making no effort to harmonize them, the editor seems to say to us: 'Take your choice.'"

—Dr. Rollin H. Walker, *Christian Advocate*, July 29, 1943. Once more the familiar charge

## Postman's Mistake, A Family Blessing

Here we have an interesting letter from Mrs. L. Webb of Pasadena, California. She says, "A copy of your paper was left at our house by mistake, as we have a substitute mail carrier for a couple of weeks, and I read it, as I enjoy Christian literature. . . . Your *SWORD OF THE LORD* was so much enjoyed that I am enclosing \$2.00 for a year's subscription. . . ."

We are so glad that a substitute mail carrier made a mistake, and we hope that whoever missed *THE SWORD OF THE LORD* that week will forgive it. That has gotten another good Christian family acquainted with *THE SWORD OF THE LORD* and I trust that untold blessings will come to them through its pages.

This just reminds me again of how easily many who read this paper could make others happy by introducing them to the paper. Show them copies of your own, or subscribe for them. Many of you could order fifty sample copies at three cents each and give them out among your friends, at a Bible class or church service, and do great good in spreading the news about this publication used of God to bless so many.

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of disagreement in details in Biblical stories is laid before us. The reason for the contradiction, they say, is that the record is composed of two documents. These documents do not agree. Once more Dr. Walker invites us to hear the so-called editor say, "Take your choice," and decide for yourself which of these two conflicting records to believe.

### Book of Ruth

Methodist leaders state that the book of Ruth is a book of fiction and that it is a waste of time to try to prove its historical accuracy.

"Why do we call it a piece of fiction (Ruth)?"

"Because of numerous straws of evidence it seems to be logical to date the book's composition long after the time of which it tells. . . . The names of his characters (the author's) are all chosen very evidently for fictional effect. . . . These names were either invented or chosen deliberately for the sake of the plot in the story. . . ."—*Know Your Bible Series*, No. 6, page 37.

"Does all this make much real difference? It makes a very real difference. If a book in the Old Testament was written originally as fiction, for the purpose of teaching a great spiritual lesson, then we waste time when we try to prove its historical accuracy. Indeed in trying to prove that it is actual history we are apt to miss its great spiritual message."—*Know Your Bible Series*, No. 1, page 9.

### Book of I Samuel

Methodist leader rejects as being not Christian.

"The mind of Christ thereupon becomes our standard, both for life itself, and for rejecting as final authority those parts of the Old Testament which do not agree with that mind. . . . That is to say we make Him the standard in whose light we look at all else the Bible teaches, and any teaching that does not agree with that standard—for example, Samuel's command that Saul should destroy all the Amalekites. . . . any such teaching we reject as not being Christian."—Dr. Edwin Lewis, *Great Christian Teachings*, pp. 14, 15.

The only commentary neces-

sary on the above is found in I Samuel 15:18-23. In this passage we learn that the Lord expressly told Saul to destroy the Amalekites and because Saul disobeyed, the Lord also rejected him from being king. The very logic of the situation demanded that a holy God remove the cancer of sin. Think of the audacity of a man who furnishes students with a basis on which they can reject parts of the Old Testament.

### Book of Kings—Methodist Leaders Charge that It is a Book Containing Errors and is Fantastic

"The author of the book of the Kings did not set out to write history. . . . The compiler's effort to prove his religious theory by historical data sometimes leads him into errors concerning dates, and at other times his zeal leads him to make statements that are almost fantastic, as when he says that a certain king did 'that which was evil in the sight of Yahweh' (I Kings 16:19) though he reigned but seven days and probably had no opportunity to show his real character or program. This illustrates, however, the artificiality of the system used in making the record conform to a religious theory."—*Know Your Bible Series*, No. 4, page 25.

### Book of Esther—Methodist Leaders Declare is Fiction

"Why do we call it a work of fiction?"

"In the first place it is impossible to identify the characters with any individuals known to history, for no matter what Persian king may be referred to under the name

of Ahasuerus, there was no queen by the name of either Vashti or Esther. There seems to be considerable agreement that Xerxes (485-465 B.C.) is the king intended, but his wife was a daughter of a Persian general. Then there are numerous highly improbable details of the story which seem to have been introduced for the purpose of making the tale dramatic. In the third place a number of inconsistencies are made necessary by the plot of the story which explains them. And, finally, the book makes no claim to being historical."—*Know Your Bible Series*, No. 6, page 63.

### Psalms—Methodist Leaders State that Some Psalms are Not Inspired

In some Psalms one must decide how much is man's word and how much is God's. Some other Psalms likewise are not the inspired Word of God, but merely the "blowing off of steam" necessary to self-control.

"Take for example Psalm 139:19 to 24 and try to determine how much is man's word and how much is God's. Do the same with the legislation on slavery in Leviticus 25:39-46."—Dr. Edwin Lewis, *Great Christian Teachings*, page 109.

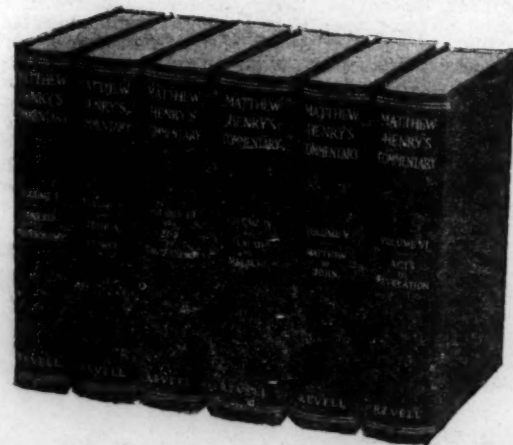
Mere students, we are told by

(Continued on page 9)

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## Present-Day Methodism

(Continued from page 8)

Methodist leaders, are to sit as critics of the Word of God and to pass on its validity! Think of it!

"We criticize what we characterize as the fierceness of the Old Testament as illustrated, for instance in the imprecatory psalms, not realizing that the psalmist, in pouring out his wrath in prayer, was often simply blowing off steam so that he could control himself and keep from cutting the throats of his enemies."—Dr. Rollin H. Walker, *Christian Advocate*, Sept. 17, 1942.

### Prophets—Methodist Leaders Say the Prophets Did Not Predict

"The prophets were preachers concerned with their time; they spoke to the people of their day, denouncing iniquity, pronouncing judgment, promising mercy, calling men to repent. They were not men

writing books or making predictions for future generations. God gave them, not mysteries for future ages to puzzle over, but messages for their generation to heed. But their words necessarily looked to the future as well...

"There has been a great misuse of these prophetic writings. They have been treated as miraculous disclosures of programs of future events. That has been especially true of the Adventist groups or premillennialists. They have thought of God in terms of a sovereign will determining everything in advance (premillennialists are almost always Calvinists), and of the prophetic writings as supernatural disclosures of future history."—Dr. H. F. Rall, *Christian Advocate*, Sept. 9, 1943.

Here, the whole prophetic message of the prophets is rejected

and the prophets restricted to a message merely for their own times. This statement is easily refuted by noting that the Lord Jesus Christ said that the prophets who wrote centuries before Him spoke prophetically of Him (Luke 24:44). Still further, He warns them that prophecies of the prophet Daniel awaited future fulfillment (Matt. 24:15).

### Book of Isaiah—Methodist Leaders Dispute Isaiah's Authorship

"Another great prophet, whose name has been lost, wrote during the same period, and his writings became attached in some way to the writings of Isaiah. For many years men believed that Isaiah had written the entire book that bears his name, but scholars have shown very conclusively of late years that the material from chapter forty on to the conclusion is at least one and perhaps two other books." — *Know Your Bible Series*, No. 1, page 45.

"Did Isaiah not write the entire book?

"Scholars have concluded that he did not, for the very good reason that political situations are mentioned in the late chapters which did not exist until more than a hundred years after he died." — *Know Your Bible Series*, No. 4, page 54.

"Who wrote these additional books?" "No one knows at this date, but scholars call the author chapters 40-55 'Deutero-Isaiah' or 'Second Isaiah' and the author of chapters 56-66 'Trito-Isaiah' or 'Third Isaiah.'" — *Know Your Bible Series*, No. 4, page 54.

"Again, take Isaiah 40 to 66, most of which according to the unanimous voice of scholars, was written by some unknown prophet in the exile." —Dr. Rollin H. Walker, *Chris-*

*tian Advocate*, March 12, 1942.

The attitude of the New Testament to the book of Isaiah is conclusive and settles the matter. Isaiah is quoted in the New Testament more than any other book of the Old Testament. Notice the New Testament references to all sections of the prophecy. Notice, also, how Isaiah is designated by the New Testament writers as the author of every section:

Isaiah 1:9, quoted in Romans 9:29, "as Esaias said." Isaiah 6:9-10, quoted in Acts 28:25-27, "Holy Ghost spake 'by Esaias.'" Isaiah 10:22, quoted in Romans 9:27, "Esaias also crieth." Isaiah 11:1, 10, quoted in Romans 15:12, "Again, Esaias saith." Isaiah 29:13, quoted in Matthew 15:7-10, "Well did Esaias prophecy." Isaiah 40:3-5, quoted in Matthew 3:3, "Spoken of by the prophet Esaias." Isaiah 42:1-4, quoted in Matthew 12:17-21, "Spoken by Esaias." Isaiah 53:1, quoted in Romans 10:16, "For Esaias saith." Isaiah 53:4, quoted in Matthew 8:17, "Spoken by Esaias the prophet." Isaiah 53:7, 8, quoted in Acts 8:28-33, "Read the prophet Esaias." Isaiah 61:1, 2, quoted in Luke 4:17-19, "Book of the prophet

Esaias." Isaiah 65:1, quoted in Romans 10:20, "Esaias is very bold, and saith."

We are faced with the fact that the Lord Jesus Christ and the apostles believed Isaiah wrote the entire prophecy. If Isaiah did not, then Christ and the apostles were either ignorant or deliberately spoke untruths. In either case the claim of the New Testament to inspiration is ruined and the Lord Jesus Christ is robbed of His deity.

### Book of Daniel—Methodist Leaders Declare It to be a Forgery; Unhistorical

"What was the book of Daniel?

"It was a religious book which appeared among the Jews about 165 B.C., in the midst of one of the most critical periods of Jewish history. Aimed to strengthen the people in the midst of persecution and to encourage them to resist their persecutors, it proved so effective, that, in spite of the fact that it was born outside the years of inspiration, it was accepted as (Continued on page 12)

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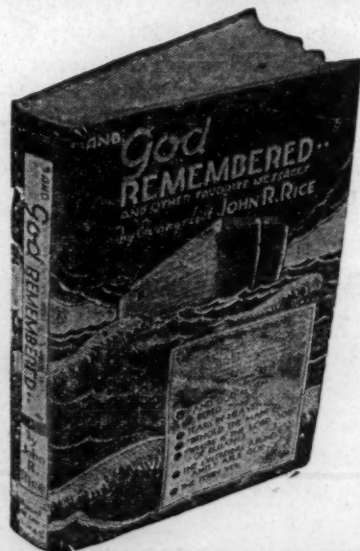
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## Saved in Three Minutes

(Continued from page 1)

order to have a gift, you must take it; and in order to have the Son of God, you must take Him."

"But how can I take Him? Tell me actually the way to do it," he exclaimed. Turning to Romans 10:9, I said, "Here we have the way told exactly: 'If thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.'"

"Now," I said, "if you want to be saved, just accept Jesus as your Saviour and tell him that you do so." So saying, I knelt by his side and bade him follow me in a simple prayer of acceptance. "Lord Jesus, I come to Thee, I am a sinner, Thou art the Saviour. I take Thee now to be my Saviour. I trust Thee, I receive Thee. I put my soul in Thy hands." That was all. I went away to attend to other duties, confident that saving faith had been exercised; and in the edge of evening I called again. I was shown into the room, where the conversation had taken place, and there lay the young man in the still sleep of death, but with the calm of heaven on his face.

"Oh, if you could have heard him talk after you went away!" said the lady of the house. "He called us all in and said, 'Isn't it wonderful? That minister showed me how I could be saved in three minutes, when I thought I must have weeks to prepare to die.' And calling upon the man of the house, who had been for some time a back-slidden Christian, he said, 'Oh, come and kneel down here and praise God that He has saved me.' And when the man demurred, he pressed him with great earnestness, till he gave in, and the cold Christian was melted in the warmth of the young convert's love."

"Such a triumphant death," said the lady, "I never witnessed before."

"Instantaneous conversion," is a term which is a great stumbling block to many. "As though one could be a sinner one moment and a saint the next!" exclaims the objector.

But without fear of contradiction, we do assert that one may be without eternal life at one moment, and possess eternal life at the next. "He that believeth on the Son hath eternal life" (John 3:36)—has it the moment he believes. That is to say, he has it in principle and in germ. As by taking the acorn in my hand, I have the oak that is to be, because the tree is wrapped up in the seed, so the moment I accept Christ I have eternal life which is in Christ. "And this is the record, that God hath given unto us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. He that hath the Son hath life." (I John 5:11.)

Instantaneous conversion is no more incredible than instantaneous enlistment. In the British army a recruit is enlisted by accepting an English shilling. The moment the coin touches his palm he is a soldier. He may be a very raw recruit, and many months may be required for his perfecting in the drill and tactics of the army, but

instantaneously he becomes a soldier. So surely the moment one receives the Lord Jesus he is a disciple, he "is passed from death unto life." (John 5:24). The perfecting and developing of his Christian life is quite another matter. That may take years. "I am come that they might have life," says Jesus, and "that they may have it more abundantly." (John 10:10). "He that believeth on the Son hath life." (John 3:36). He that continues in the faith and growth in grace will have life more abundant.

Blessed be God for a gospel that can save us in three minutes—yea, in one minute, when we simply believe on God's Son.

As God's Word warns us against proposing what we will do tomorrow: "Whereas thou knowest not what shall be on the morrow," it will not surely offer us a way of salvation which it will take many to-morrows to accomplish. "Now is the accepted time, now is the day of salvation." (2 Cor. 6:2). And, reader, be assured that now if you accept Christ, "this day is salvation come to thy house." (Luke 19:9.)

### You, Sword Reader, Can Be Saved and Know It Within Three Minutes!

You have read the fine article by Dr. A. J. Gordon above. I beg you in Jesus' name to make sure of your soul's salvation right now, within the next two or three minutes. Are you willing to confess to God that you are a poor, wicked sinner, a lost sinner unsaved? Do you believe what the Bible says, that Jesus died for your sins and that He is ready to forgive and save you now when you trust Him? Then, make the great decision. Will you here and now, this moment, turn from sin to Christ and depend on Him to forgive you and save you? Will you right now accept Christ as your own personal Saviour, relying on Him to forgive you your sins, change your heart and make you a child of God this moment? If so, I beg you to sign the decision form here, copy it in a letter and mail it to me at once. I will send you a letter of counsel and encouragement to help you live for God after you have trusted Him.

Evangelist John R. Rice,  
Sword of the Lord  
Wheaton, Illinois

Dear Brother Rice:

I have read Dr. A. J. Gordon's little article, "Saved in Three Minutes." I confess that I am a poor, lost sinner who needs saving. I believe that Christ died for me and is willing to save me. So here and now, with all my heart, I turn from my sin, I trust Jesus Christ to forgive and save me now. I give Him my heart forever. By His grace I will claim Him openly as my Saviour and set out to live for Him.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_



## Two Harvests

(Continued from page 1)

Nature has ordained a mighty increase between the seed sown and the crop harvested. The Bible says: "That which thou sowest, thou sowest not that body that shall be, but bare grain, it may chance of wheat, or of some other grain" (1 Cor. 15:37). But with right conditions it produces "some an hundred fold, some sixty, some thirty."

This mighty increase in the harvest over the amount of seed sown is also a moral law. It operates in man's whole life. Every human is responsible to God. He commands men to believe in Jesus. But he does not compel. Christ invites every sinful person, "Come unto me all ye . . ." Remember, He invites. He does not violate man's will. Every man is free to choose. But that high privilege has its corresponding responsibility. Every human is sowing. To reject the invitation of Christ day after day may seem a thing of small importance to a rebel heart, but that rejection will have assumed transcendental and fatal significance when the sinner stands before the great Judge.

God Almighty has organized the universe in conformity with this law. For any man to think otherwise is to deceive himself. To be sure, we would like to believe that our violations of God's law would not afterwards have to be faced. Such a thought is vain. The Bible says, "God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing" (Eccl. 12:14). "Every one of us shall give account of himself to God" (Rom. 14:12). The Devil whispers in our ear that we can mock God without being caught. But the Devil is a liar. "Be not deceived; God is not mocked."

### Every Sin Judged

God is perfect in holiness and inexorable in justice, and His universal law is: "Whatsoever a man soweth that shall he also reap." From the creation of the world until this present moment not one single sin has escaped the operation of that law. Get this fact straight: every sin ever committed has received, or will receive, punishment from God. Not a solitary sin ever perpetrated, great or small, has not signified judgment to the person who committed it. Reader, think. Are you considering a sinful act? Carry it through and you will suffer the terrible consequences. You cannot get away with sin! No power exists in earth or Hell that can prevent the sinner from facing his sin. What you sow, you will reap. "Sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death" (Jas. 1:15).

Men are able to mock some human courts, but there never lived a man cunning enough to escape the inexorable judgment of God. Divine justice demands that there be exacted from every sinner an adequate penalty for every sin. The day of reckoning may tarry a month, a year, or an age, but judgment will come for God has said so.

Don't fool yourself thinking the evil has been hidden. It is possible to hide things from men, but you cannot hide from God. "His eyes are upon the ways of man, and he seeth all his goings. There is no darkness, nor shadow of death, where the workers of iniquity may hide themselves" (Job 34:21,22). God sees you sin and with Him you will have to settle the account.

How often we see illustrated the Bible truth: "He that covereth his sins shall not prosper" (Prov. 28:13). What of persons besieged by failures and frustrations? The Word of God reveals one reason. Are not many trying to hide sins from God? How wonderful is the rest of the text: "But whoso confesseth and forsaketh them [his sins] shall have mercy."

### True for Everyone

Even David, great and spiritual king of Israel, once forgot that sin cannot be hid. How well he thought he had covered the evidence of his sin with the wife of Urias, one of David's bravest soldiers. To conceal his crime, the king cleverly managed to have Urias killed in a military action. Death sealed the only lips likely to expose David's guilt. The king imagined all danger had been buried with Urias and that the future would be smooth sailing. How mistaken he was! God knew every dark secret of that aw-

ful sin. "All things are naked and open unto the eyes of him with whom we have to do" (Heb. 4:13). God's Spirit tormented David's conscience. "When I kept silence, my bones waxed old through my roaring all the day long. For day and night thy hand was heavy upon me: my moisture is turned into the drought of summer" (Psa. 32:3,4). Finally, God's prophet drove the red-hot spear of truth to the king's heart and shattered all his armour with the words: "Thou art the man." David at last found pardon and peace only when he confessed his sin to God. Be not deceived regarding personal vices. Wicked sowing of evil customs will one day produce a frightful harvest. Only in Jesus Christ is the adequate cure for bad habits. A life surrendered to Him has its very fountain of being changed. "If any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new" (II Cor. 5:17).

### Tempting God

Don't foolishly disregard God's Word. Some men think they can reject Bible commands just as though they were from an ordinary book, but Almighty God backs every word of the Bible. That Book says, "The wages of sin is death."

Pharaoh, the Egyptian dictator, was one who refused to heed the warnings of God. "Who is the Lord"—he scoffed—"that I should obey his voice to let Israel go? I know not the Lord, neither will I let Israel go" (Exod. 5:2). But the moment came as God had said, when Pharaoh's sin was judged by death that swept away the first-born of every Egyptian family. "And Pharaoh rose up in the night, he, and all his servants, and all the Egyptians; and there was a great cry in Egypt; for there was not a house where there was not one dead" (Exod. 12:30). Pharaoh learned at last that God cannot be mocked.

In the first pages of the Bible we read of Sodom and Gomorrah, names that have lived on across the years as a mute and solemn testimony of the wrath of God. Those cities were unspeakably corrupt. Finally God warned the people through his servant Lot: "Up, get you out of this place: for the Lord will destroy this city!" (Gen. 19:14). But his hearers only laughed at his warnings. Even members of his own family refused to believe him. Says the Bible, "He seemed as one that mocked unto his sons in law."

Nevertheless, exactly as God promised, judgment fell. "The Lord rained upon Sodom and upon Gomorrah brimstone and fire from the Lord out of Heaven. And he overthrew those cities, and all the plain and all the inhabitants of the cities, and that which grew upon the ground" (Gen. 19:24,25). The inhabitants of those cities learned, too late, that God cannot be mocked.

History repeats itself. When the mighty and wicked Babylon and her proud king Nebuchadnezzar refused to listen to the warnings of God, the Lord declared: "And Babylon shall become heaps, a dwelling-place for jackals, an astonishment, and a hissing, without inhabitant" (Jer. 51:37 R.V.). That promise was fulfilled in all detail. "For the destroyer is come upon her, even upon Babylon, and her mighty men are taken, their bows are broken in pieces; for Jehovah is a God of recompenses, he will surely requite" (Jer. 51:56).

This is a solemn warning to a rebellious world. "The god of judgment will pay what is due."

The man Abimelech of Bible times had many good traits. Nevertheless, he was guilty of the enormous crime of killing all his brothers but one in order to be king. Time passed, and on-lookers probably said: "That scoundrel will go scot-free." But no. One day during the siege of a city, "a certain woman cast a piece of a millstone upon Abimelech's head, and all to brake his skull" (Judg. 9:53). Of his shameful death the Bible says, "Thus God requited the wickedness of Abimelech, which he did unto his father, in slaying his seventy brethren" (Judg. 9:56 R.V.).

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### Most Solemn Result

Of all the results of this inexorable law of sowing and reaping, the most solemn are those that affect human destiny. Man, woman, youth, do not deceive yourself by dealing lightly with Jesus Christ. "Come now, and let us reason together, saith the Lord: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool" (Isa. 1:18). It is a solemn responsibility to receive the wonderful invitation of Christ, "Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden." What a promise He adds: "Him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out" (John 6:37).

No human being can live apart from Jesus Christ here and be saved hereafter. It is impossible to sow uncleanness and reap purity; to sow Hell and harvest Heaven; to refuse to open your heart to God and think He will open Heaven to you.

Jesus said to the Jews: "If you do not believe . . . you shall die in your sins." But they only laughed at the Son of God and scorned His declarations that judgment would fall, and that Jerusalem and the Temple would be leveled to the ground. He told plainly and lovingly of the sufferings that would come upon that people for their hard-heartedness and unbelief. They finally silenced the voice of the Lord, nailing Him to the Cross. Apparently they had triumphed. Nevertheless, God was not mocked.

Secular history tells of the siege of Jerusalem in the year 70 A. D. The Roman armies came led by Titus. The walls of Jerusalem and the splendid Temple were thrown down just as Christ had said. Rivers of blood ran through the streets. Starvation stalked on every hand. Thousands and thousands of men, women, and children died in that awful slaughter. More than a million people perished miserably. The Jewish princes were spitted on crosses on the hills around Jerusalem.

### I Plead with You

Friend, for the wellbeing of your immortal soul, believe the testimony of the Bible: "God cannot be mocked." A Persian ruler, living a wicked life, nevertheless declared

with pride that he expected to reach paradise after leaving this world. On a certain occasion he commanded one of his trusted officials to supervise the sowing, care, and harvesting of wheat in a certain section of his domain. Months later the ruler was advised that the land had yielded a crop, not of wheat, but of corn. The official was summoned. Being both brave and intelligent he said, "Inasmuch as your Excellency says that you expect to enter paradise, despite living a life so contrary, I believe, likewise, I could sow corn and harvest wheat!" It is said the ruler took the lesson to heart.

How then can a sinner sow to reap a good harvest? Accept the invitation the Spirit of God presents to your heart. He says; "But as many as received him, [Jesus Christ] to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name" (John 1:12). To receive Christ with repentant heart is to sow to the Spirit. Do so and you will harvest eternal life. To refuse Christ is to sow to the flesh and to harvest eternal destruction. God's Word will stand: "He that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting."

Which harvest will be yours?

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It's a common topic of conversation these days—how much it costs to feed the family, how expensive shoes are, how high the cost is of maintaining the home. As the cost of producing these things increased, so did the cost of producing books. For several years here at the Sword, we have felt the squeeze of rising prices while trying to keep our selling price to you down, and with success, too! While the cost of producing books has gone up over 100% in recent years, our prices to you have increased very little. But now we must raise the prices on some of our books.

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## Can You Match Them?

(Continued from page 1)

friends or job or income or comfort? Does any reader believe that the kind of giving which is incidental, which does not affect how much money you spend for clothes or food or pleasures, can be acceptable to God? Do you really believe that God wants only the loose change, the tips, the chicken-feed? How do you think the Lord Jesus regards the Christians who do not give as much to spread the gospel as others spend for liquor or tobacco or night clubs or theaters?

In I Kings 17, we find the story of the widow of Zarephath, who took in the prophet Elijah and fed him during a time of great drouth and famine. Read the story of how Elijah came to meet the widow after he was commanded of God to go to Zarephath.

"So he arose and went to Zarephath. And when he came to the gate of the city, behold, the widow woman was there gathering of sticks: and he called to her, and said, Fetch me, I pray thee, a little water in a vessel, that I may drink. And as she was going to fetch it, he called to her, and said, Bring me, I pray thee, a morsel of bread in thine hand. And she said, As the Lord thy God liveth, I have not a cake, but an handful of meal in a barrel, and a little oil in a cruse: and, behold, I am gathering two sticks, that I may go in and dress it for me and my son, that we may eat it, and die. And Elijah said unto her, Fear not; go and do as thou hast said: but make me thereof a little cake first, and bring it unto me, and after make for thee and for thy son. For thus saith the Lord God of Israel, The barrel of meal shall not waste, neither shall the cruse of oil fail, until the day that the Lord sendeth rain upon the earth. And she went and did according to the saying of Elijah: and she, and he, and her house, did eat many days. And the barrel of meal wasted not, neither did the cruse of oil fail, according to the word of the Lord, which he spake by Elijah."—I Kings 17: 10-16.

Here the Lord demanded that the woman should take of that handful of meal and make first a cake for the prophet of God before she would cook the final scanty morsel for herself and her starving son! "And Elijah said unto her, Fear not; go and do as thou hast said: but make me thereof a little cake first." She trusted God and made the prophet's cake first, and God saw to it that the barrel of meal never grew less and the cruse of oil never failed through the famine time! Do you think the God who demanded the first and the best will be satisfied with ordinary giving and ordinary living?

In the words that head this article, let me ask you, Can you match the great Christians of the Bible in sacrifice? We have the "Faith of our fathers! living still In spite of dungeon, fire, and sword."

And we often sing,  
"Our fathers, chained in prisons dark,

Were still in heart and conscience free:

How sweet would be their children's fate,

If they, like them, could die for thee!

Faith of our father, holy faith!

We will be true to thee till death!"

Is that kind of faith still alive in the world? Are you that kind of a Christian? Can you match the martyrs who were burned at the stakes? Can you match Stephen who was stoned and killed for his faithful preaching? Can you match Paul who was beaten, chased, hounded, imprisoned and finally beheaded for Christ? Can you match John the Baptist who lost his head and gained an eternal crown of glory? Can you match missionaries on the foreign field who leave home, family, and everything to go to a far-off land, to live on meager salaries, in order to win souls?

It is still true that  
"The Son of God goes forth to war,

A kingly crown to gain."

It is still true that  
"His blood-red banner streams afar:

Who follows in His train?  
Who best can drink his cup of woe,  
Triumphant over pain,  
Who patient bears his cross below,  
He follows in His train."

Are you in the holy procession of the saints of God who have suffered to spread the gospel? Can you match martyrs; missionaries, those who run rescue missions, the men who pay such awful price to have revivals?

### Can You Match the Zeal of False Cults?

I have a letter from Miss Honore Osberg of Los Angeles, a worker in the office of the good Christian magazine, *Herald of His Coming*. She is greatly distressed, tells of "groups of communist young men and women standing on the street corners, handing out attractive communist tracts. Or they go patiently from door to door. The titles are arresting: 'Why I Love Communism,' 'Communism Is the Answer to Your Problem,' 'What Communism Will Do for You,' and 'Communism Loves the Jews.'" Communist missionaries have dedicated their lives to holding youth meetings, getting in schools, crying out against what they call "American imperialism."

Isn't it shocking that communists are more concerned about getting out their heathen, atheis-

tic gospel of hate and destruction and murder than Christians are concerned about getting out the gospel of Christ?

Yesterday a good woman came to see me in my office in Wheaton. She was deeply distressed because British-Israelism had gotten hold of some of her relatives. They had gone into a wild fanaticism to spread this doctrine that the Anglo-Saxon people are the true Israelites, that the Kingdom of God on earth must be in England and America, etc. This was answered Feb. 8 in an article in *THE SWORD OF THE LORD* by Jacob Gartenhaus. And she was so glad to find the answer so she could tell others. But this false cult was going out eagerly proselyting, not trying to get people converted, but to get them to join in a political kind of a set-up appealing to racial pride through this false cult. Can you match them with a like zeal to get people converted and to spread revival fire?

Our Catholic friends are paying for big ads in daily newspapers all over America. Again and again people write to me calling attention to misstatements and false teaching that ought to be answered. Such ads, as a total in the United States, must cost hundreds of thousands of dollars, perhaps millions of dollars. I do not blame Catholics for being zealous and for raising money to propagate their faith. I only blame born-again Protestants for not having more zeal to win souls to Christ and to win people out of the darkness of Catholicism into the true light of faith in Jesus

Christ alone as Saviour, winning people away from the human tradition to the Word of God. Can you match Catholics who can go to six o'clock mass in the morning, who can give millions of dollars for the promotion of their faith?

Jehovah's Witnesses have great printing plants dedicated to the printing of millions of copies of their books. Every member of that sect with its many false doctrines is expected to stand on street corners and sell the literature, or carry literature from house to house and give it away if they cannot sell it. You Christians who never try to get the members of your church to take *THE SWORD OF THE LORD*, who never subscribe for backslidden Christians or for young Christians needing strength, or for lost people—do you think you match the zeal of Jehovah's Witnesses?

Seventh-Day Adventists have great publishing plants and they spend millions of dollars in printing literature to preach their particular doctrines, particularly to get people to observe Saturday as Sabbath, as the Jews did; to get people to take up their peculiar diet, etc. Do you match Seventh-Day Adventists in their zeal for spreading their doctrines?

### Can You Match Other Sacrificial Christians in Getting Out The Sword of the Lord

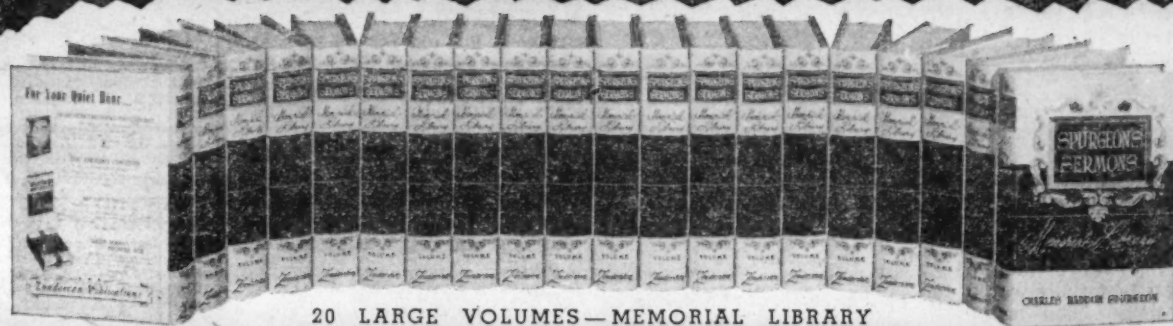
We are in a tremendous campaign to get 50,000 new and renewal subscriptions for *THE SWORD OF THE LORD* by April 1. A

tremendous burden is on my heart. I pray about this with the same zeal and burden and tears as I pray about revival campaigns. I have before me on my desk a list by name of 77 people who wrote within the last year saying that they were saved through the sermons printed in *THE SWORD OF THE LORD*. I have at hand regularly, reports that tell us of the same blessed revival results through *THE SWORD OF THE LORD* and the literature we promote as we hear of through great and blessed revival campaigns. This is the Lord's work. To spread *THE SWORD OF THE LORD* is to spread revival. To get out *THE SWORD OF THE LORD* is to get out the gospel. To spread *THE SWORD OF THE LORD* widely helps to fulfill the Great Commission of getting the gospel to every creature. We have a right to ask that every born-again Christian who really loves Jesus Christ will work at this matter, will sacrificially give to send subscriptions, will feel a burden from God to join hands with us in sending subscriptions and getting others to subscribe.

Here in the Sword of the Lord office about fifty people work, including a few part-time workers who are college students. Already, in one month of this campaign, they have given an average of nineteen subscriptions each! They fully expect to give many more. I believe that by April 1, these humble workers in the Sword of the Lord office will give or will secure some 2,000 paid subscriptions to *THE SWORD OF THE LORD* (Continued on page 12)

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## Present-Day Methodism

(Continued from page 9)

a part of the Old Testament and is generally called a 'prophecy.'—*Know Your Bible Series*, No. 6, p. 56.

"What did the book of Daniel have to do with all this?"

"Some devout Jew seeing the need of encouraging the people, and with the desire to steel their wills against the persecutors, wrote the book of Daniel to accomplish this purpose. He believed he knew the mind of God, and he was driven by the powerful conviction that he must proclaim the divine will. Yet he knew that if he put it out in his own name no one would give it any attention, whereas if he put it out as the work of some ancient worthy it would be heeded."—*Know Your Bible Series*, page 57.

"One of the greatest triumphs of modern Old Testament scholarship has been the discovery that the book of Daniel, instead of being sober history, belongs to this class of writing (highly figurative language) and it has a striking parallel in the New Testament in the Revelation of John."—Dr. Edwin Lewis, *Great Christian Teachings*, page 89.

Daniel, we are told, was not the author of the prophecy bearing his name. The book is a forgery, the name of Daniel being attached to give it authority. The book is not historical. However, we must never lose sight of the fact that the Lord Jesus Christ put His seal of approval upon Daniel as the author. "When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place..." (Matt. 24:15). Our Lord is referring to the passage in Daniel 9:27.

### Book of Jonah—Methodist Leaders Declare It to Be Fiction

"Why call it a piece of inspired fiction?"

"...There is the sudden conversion of the great city as a result of one day's preaching. The ancients were not in the habit of giving up their faiths so easily nor is there the slightest evidence that Nineveh ever turned to Yahweh. If it had, there would certainly have been some mention of the fact in the Old Testament outside of the book of Jonah... The best explanation of the book then, based on all facts available, is that in a profound effort to break down the exclusive spirit of the Jews, a piece of fiction about a great prophet was chosen as the method."—*Know Your Bible Series*, No. 6, page 46.

"What do we know about Jonah?"

"All of which we can be absolutely sure is that he preached in Jeroboam's time and that his father's name was Amittai. This means 'Truth,' and it may have been that this interested the author and caused him to choose Jonah as the hero of his story because he was a 'son of truth.' Aside from this slender bit of evidence, about all we can say is that the book is a piece of devout fiction intended to teach a profound spiritual truth."—*Know Your Bible Series*, No. 6, page 44.

"What about the great fish?"

"Various efforts have been made to identify the 'great fish' of the story with the whale or some other sea monster. It has been argued that God could have made a 'great fish' big enough to swallow a man, and of course that is true."

"But all such arguments are based on the assumption that the book of Jonah is a historical account... The simple truth is that those who become concerned with the question of the whale and Jonah's survival in its belly miss the great spiritual message of the book—the message of God's concern is

salvation for the human race rather than for one nation. All this becomes clear if we think of Jonah as a piece of inspired fiction, with a great religious message and purpose at its heart."—*Know Your Bible Series*, No. 6, page 46. Jonah is called "inspired fiction." It is a fairy tale, not intended to be historical. Once more we turn to the Lord Jesus Christ as our authority. We believe Jonah on His authority. He stated that the repentance of Nineveh was a fact in history. Luke 11:32: "The men of Nineveh shall rise up in judgment with this generation, and shall condemn it: for they repented at the preaching of Jonas; and behold, a greater than Jonas is here." The Lord Jesus Christ also stated that "Jonas was three days and three nights in the whale's [great fish] belly" (Matt. 12:40). He based a prophecy of His resurrection upon this statement, declaring that "so shall the Son of man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth." If the story of Jonah is not true, neither is the resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ. They stand or fall together.

To summarize briefly, the Methodist leaders whom I have quoted teach:

1. Moses did not write the Pentateuch as the Old Testament claims.
2. There are contradictions appearing throughout the Pentateuch.
3. The Creation and Flood accounts are merely revised pagan stories.
4. The Fall of Man is a legend.
5. Abraham offered Isaac in accordance with a heathen custom.
6. Parts of First Samuel are to be rejected.
7. Kings contains errors and is fantastic.
8. Much of Old Testament is fiction, such as Ruth, Esther, Jonah.
9. Daniel is a forgery.
10. Some Psalms are not inspired.
11. Isaiah is not the author of the entire book of Isaiah.

In view of the above, it is needless to add that these Methodist leaders do not believe in a verbally-inspired, inerrant Old Testament.

In striking contrast Christ and the apostles upheld the divine inspiration and thus the inerrancy of the Old Testament. Whenever Christ and the apostles quoted the Old Testament, they treated it as the very Word of God. They quoted it as authoritative and final, and as that which settled a matter, and from which there is no appeal. Christian leaders throughout the years have pointed out that whoever rejects what Christ and the apostles upheld, necessarily rejects the authority of Christ and the apostles. If the authority of Christ and the apostles is rejected, there remains no basis for Christian faith.

A few references will clearly show the attitude of Christ to the Old Testament. "The scripture cannot be broken," He said (John 10:35). He declared the Old Testament cannot be cancelled, or its authority set aside. He stated that all the law would be fulfilled even to its smallest detail (Matt. 5:18). After His resurrection Christ again upheld the writings of Moses and the prophets and Psalms, and declared that "all things must be fulfilled" which are written therein concerning Himself. He thus gives a clear testimony to the divine inspiration of the entire Old Testament.

The position of the apostles is the same as that of Christ regarding the divine inspiration and inerrancy of the Old Testament. Peter wrote, "For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost" (II Pet. 1:21). Paul wrote, "All scripture is given by inspiration of God" (II Tim. 3:16). The apostles quote the Old Testament scores of times and always as the authoritative, inspired Word of God.

(From the book, *Present Day Methodism and the Bible*, 107

and will average giving nearly forty subscriptions each! They are working at it with holy zeal. They have separate prayer meetings about it. They write letters. Some of them have assigned a certain part of their salary each week for months ahead! Three of these workers are paying on their own homes. The others, in the main, rent rooms and get by the best they can on modest salaries. All are poor, but fine workers, fine Christians. I believe that readers of THE SWORD OF THE LORD will have to stand up before Jesus Christ and be compared with the holy zeal of these young people in the Sword of the Lord office! Can you match them in earnest desire to get out the gospel?

One good woman took her vacation money and spent it for subscriptions for THE SWORD OF THE LORD. Can you match that?

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(Continued from page 11)

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